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ABSTRACT

This document presents the medium-term plan (1992-97) of the International Federations of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). IFLA's long-term policy statement is included, and the concept, objectives, orientation, and goals for its five core programs are described. The programs are: Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC; Universal Availability of Publications; Preservation and Conservation; Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications; and Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World. Following this, the nature and purpose, objectives, and goals are presented for each of the divisions with their sections and round tables. These are the divisions of: (1) General Research Libraries; (2) Special Libraries; (3) Libraries Serving the General Public; (4) Bibliographic Control; (5) Collections and Services; (6) Management and Technology; (7) Education and Research; and (8) Regional Activities. Also included are a list of acronyms; a keyword/subject index to IFLA's professional groups; and an outline and organizational chart of IFLA divisions, sections, and round tables. (MES)

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MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMME 1992-1997

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Compiled by the Professional Board of IFLA
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The Hague, 1992

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

AIPLF	Association internationale des parlementaires de langue française
ALP	Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World
APLAP	Association of Parliamentary Libraries of Asia and the Pacific
AV-Media	Audiovisual Media
BIEF	Banque internationale d'information sur les Etats francophones
CCITT	Comité Consultatif International Télégraphique et Téléphonique
CDNL	Conference of Directors of National Libraries
CD-ROM	Compact Disk - Read Only Memory
CEC	Commission of the European Communities
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CLR	Council on Library Resources
COMLA	Commonwealth Library Association
COMLUT	Programa de Comutação Bibliográfica (Interlibrary Exchange Program)
CONSAL	Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians
DSE	Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung
EAHIL	European Association for Health Information and Libraries
ECPRD	European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation
EDIFACT	Electronic Data Interchange for Administration, Commerce and Transportation
EDP	Electronic Data Processing
EFLC	European Foundation for Library Cooperation
ELP	European Librarians and Publishers [group]

ELIPA	Experienced Library and Information Personnel in Asia and Oceania
ER	Easy-to-read
EWOS	European Workshop on Open Systems
FEBAB	Federação Brasileira de Associãçoes de Bibliotecários
FID	Fédération Internationale de Documentation (International Federation for Information and Documentation)
FID/SD	International Federation for Information and Documentation/Social Science Documentation
GEDI	Group on Electronic Document Interchange
IATUL	International Association of Technological University Libraries
IBBY	International Board on Books for Young People
ICA	International Council on Archives
ICBC	International Cataloguing and Bibliographic Control
ICLM	International Committee on Literary Museums
ICOM	International Council of Museums
ICML	International Congress on Medical Librarianship
ICSSD	International Committee for Social Science Information and Documentation
ICSTI	International Centre for Scientific and Technical Information
IDRC	International Development Research Council
IFIP	International Federation for Information Processing
IFLA	International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
IFOBS	International Forum on Open Bibliographic Systems
IGU	International Geographical Union

INFOBILA	Mexico
INSPEL	[International Special Libraries]
INTAMEL	International Association of Metropolitan City Libraries
IPA	International Publishers Association
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
ISBD	International Standard Bibliographic Description
ISBD (A)	ISBD (Antiquarian)
ISBD (CF)	ISBD (Computer Files)
ISBD (CM)	ISBD (Cartographic Materials)
ISBD (CP)	ISBD (Component Parts)
ISBM (M)	ISBD (Monographs)
ISBD (PM)	ISBD (Printed Music)
ISBD (S)	ISBD (Serials)
ISDS	International Serials Data System
ISO	International Standards Organization
ISO/TC46	Technical Committee 46 (Standardization in the field of information, documentation, librarianship, and related information handling, including information systems and interchange networks as applied to documentation)
IT	Information Technology
LAN	Local Area Network
LIBER	Ligue des Bibliothèques Européennes de Recherche (League of European Research Libraries)
MARC	Machine-Readable Cataloguing
MIS	Management Information Systems

MTP	Medium-Term Programme
NBLC	Nederlands Bibliotheek & Lektuur Centrum
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OAS	Organization of American States
OIL	(IFLA) Office for International Lending
OPAC	Online Public Access Catalogue
OSI	Open Systems Interconnection
OSIRIS	Online Serials Information Registration and Inquiry System
PAC	Preservation and Conservation Programme
ROTNAC	Round Table of National Centres for Library Services
SSID	Social Science Information and Documentation
TDF	Transborder Dataflow see UDT
UAP	Universal Availability of Publications
UBC	Universal Bibliographic Control see UBCIM
UBCIM	Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC
UDT	Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications
UNAM	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (National University of Mexico)
Unesco	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Unesco-PGI	Unesco-Programme Général d'Information (General Information Programme)
UNIMARC	Universal MARC Format
WAN	Wide Area Network
WCWB	World Council for the Welfare of the Blind

WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization

PREFACE

IFLA's formal long- and medium-term planning has now been in place for three decades. In 1963, Libraries in the World was published as a long-term guide for IFLA's professional activities. The first Medium-Term Programme (MTP) covering the years 1976 to 1981 was published in 1976, the second MTP for 1981 to 1985 was published in 1985 and the third MTP for 1986 to 1991 was published in 1985, with a second edition in 1988.

For the period 1992-1997, this fourth MTP has been compiled under the direction of the Professional Board. A Guide to the Preparation of the Medium-Term Programme, 1992-1997 for the Use of IFLA Divisions, Sections, Round Tables and Core Programmes was prepared by the late Guust van Wesemael, then Professional Coordinator, and Hope E.A. Clement, then Chair of the Professional Board, and approved by the Professional Board and the Programme Management Committee. Work on the preparation of the MTP began in May 1990 and for the first time professional groups were asked to report on and evaluate their previous MTPs as well as to begin preparation for the new period. Preparation of the MTP began at the IFLA Conference in August 1990 in Stockholm, and was completed in Moscow. During the Moscow Conference there was a review by Ernst Kohl of achievements under the previous MTP period and a presentation by Hope E. A. Clement on trends for the new MTP period.

In 1991 a statement of IFLA's Long-Term Policy was proposed by the Executive Board and approved by Council in Moscow. This policy statement is included as Chapter 1 for easy reference and use in connection with the Medium-Term Programme.

IFLA professional groups were asked to prepared their MTPs under four main headings: Nature and Purpose (Programme Concept for Core Programmes), Objectives, Goals for 1992- 1997 and Work Plan for 1992-1997. Nature and Purpose or Programme Concept describes concisely the *raison d'être* of the group, including the community at which it is aimed or the special significance of its area of specialization. Objectives are general and do not usually change greatly from one MTP to the next, but Goals are the specific ones which it is planned to accomplish in the new MTP period. The Work Plans for the professional groups specify how the goals are to be achieved and include such concrete activities as projects, research, studies, surveys, publications, preparation of standards and guidelines, meetings, workshops, seminars, training sessions, etc. As these are changed, reviewed and evaluated each year, it was decided to issue them in a separate document, Work Plans of IFLA Professional Groups - 1992-1997, which will be updated annually and be available on request from IFLA HQ.

I would like to thank all who contributed to the preparation of this Medium-Term Programme: the IFLA officers, Standing Committee members, Core Programme directors and officers who prepared the text for their professional groups; the members of the Professional Board who ensured that the work was done and approved it at the Coordinating Board level; the IFLA Headquarters staff; and last but not least Hope E.A. Clement, the Chair of the Professional

Board 1989-1991, who did the preparatory work for the MTP and the overall compilation and editing of the document.

In addition, thanks are due to the colleagues and libraries involved in the task of translating, printing and distributing this document in its other language editions (French, German, Russian and Spanish) and thus helping to spread worldwide knowledge of the IFLA activities planned for the years 1992-1997.

David Clements
Chair, IFLA Professional Board

November 1991.

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INTRODUCTION

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is a worldwide, independent, non-governmental organization. Its constantly growing membership now 1,300 over in more than 130 countries. Its members are library and related associations, libraries and similar institutions, institutional affiliates, and personal members. It is registered in the Netherlands as an Institutional Association.

Objectives

The basic objectives of IFLA which aim at universality and comprehensiveness are to:

- Promote international understanding, cooperation, discussion, research, and development in all fields of library and information service activity.
- Promote the continuing education of library personnel.
- Provide an organization through which librarianship can be represented in matters of international interest.
- Develop, promote, and maintain guidelines for various types of library activities, including compilation of statistics, recording and communication of bibliographic data, preservation and conservation of library materials, etc.

IFLA supports these objectives by extending its membership to all countries with library and information services.

Organization of IFLA

The activity of IFLA is accomplished through the five Core Programmes and the Divisions, Sections, and Round Tables. In pursuing its objectives, IFLA also cooperates with other organizations, both inter-governmental and non-governmental.

The Sections are the basic professional groups of IFLA. The 32 Sections and 12 Round Tables are grouped into eight Divisions. Sections are concerned with types of libraries (e.g. public libraries) or types of library activity (e.g. cataloguing, conservation), with the exception of the Division of Regional Activities, whose three Sections are concerned with all library and information services in the developing countries. Its three Sections, for Africa, Asia and Oceania and Latin America and the Caribbean, promote IFLA's activities in these regions, complement the work of the other Sections and Divisions and work closely with the ALP Core Programme.

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Each Section proposes its own programme. These programmes are reviewed by the Division's Coordinating Board (consisting of the elected officers of the Sections in the Division), and the Divisions' programmes as a whole are reviewed by the Professional Board (consisting of a representative from each Division). There is a continuing review of both the number and the tasks of the Sections and Round Tables and their professional work is coordinated with that of the Core Programmes.

The professional work of the five Core Programmes is directed by the Professional Board and coordinated with that of the Division and Sections. Policy and resource matters relating to the Core Programmes fall within the mandate of the Executive Board. Core Programmes are located in national institutions: Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UBCIM) at the Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt; Universal Availability of Publications (UAP) at the British Library Document Supply Centre, Boston Spa; Preservation and Conservation (PAC) at the Bibliothèque nationale, Paris; Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications (UDT) at the National Library of Canada, Ottawa; and Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World (ALP) at Uppsala University, Sweden. In addition, a special unit of IFLA is the Office for International Lending (OIL) also located at the British Library in Boston Spa. It works closely with the UAP Programme in addition to its own well-established activities in facilitating international interlending.

IFLA Headquarters is located in The Hague, the Netherlands. The Secretariat serves as the focal point for the monitoring of the activities of the Divisions, Sections, and Round Tables and Core Programmes.

IFLA's Long-Term Policy and the Medium-Term Programme

IFLA's Long-Term Policy aims to support the role and mission of the Federation: to advance the leadership role of its members for the benefit of society and to create a visionary framework for the development of the library profession. The Policy is based on the assumption that the library profession has common goals, although there may be regional and national differences, and that there are common concerns which professionals and institutions share.

The Long-Term Policy focuses on the following issues: the role of libraries and their development in the context of the cultural and social and cultural dimension of society; the fight against illiteracy; the right of individuals to have access to needed information; the use of information in promoting responsible decision making; the need to bridge the gap between the information rich and the information poor; intellectual freedom and protection from censorship; the information market and information as a commodity; the status of the profession; and the influence of new information technology. These issues can be grouped under four headings which form the main subjects of IFLA's Long-Term Policy; the cultural, educational and social role of libraries; the improvement of access to and availability of information; the enhancement of the library profession; and the development and application of new information technology.

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The Medium-Term Programme is the means by which IFLA's Long-Term Policy is realized. All IFLA professional groups develop their programmes on a medium-term, six-yearly basis in the context of the Long-Term Policy. The MTPs express in concrete plans the activities each group will carry out. Together these professional activities over the long-term will contribute to the implementation of the Policy.

IFLA's full Long-Term Policy statement can be found as Chapter 1 of this document for convenience of use with the Medium-Term Programmes of the Core Programmes and of the Divisions, Sections and Round Tables which comprise Chapters 2 and 3 respectively.

Acknowledgements

The establishment and maintenance of IFLA's professional work and the Core Programmes have been made possible by the generosity of Unesco, the Council on Library Resources (CLR), the Deutsche Stiftung für Internationale Entwicklung (DSE), the [US] National Commission on Libraries and Information Science (NCLIS) the British Library, die Deutsche Bibliothek, the Bibliothèque nationale, France, the National Library of Canada, the University of Uppsala, and many other national libraries as well as libraries that have contributed in kind to IFLA's work.

A special word of thanks is due to the Dutch Ministry of Education and Sciences which enables IFLA to be housed at the Koninklijke Bibliotheek (Royal Library), the national library of the Netherlands.

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CHAPTER 1

IFLA'S LONG-TERM POLICY

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 IFLA's Role and Mission

IFLA is an independent professional international federation, without profit motive whose purpose is to promote international understanding, cooperation, discussion, research and development in all fields of library activity, including bibliography, information services, document delivery, and the education of personnel. As a non-governmental organization IFLA provides a body through which worldwide librarianship can be represented in matters of international interest. In pursuing its objectives, IFLA supports the Universal Declaration Human Rights that "everyone has the right to participate freely in the culture of the community, to enjoy the arts, and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits" (Art. 27).

In fulfilling its mission, the Federation focuses its attention on: broadening access to and availability of information to users worldwide; stimulating the development of the profession; supporting the growth and expansion of libraries; extending the range and variety of information resources available through libraries.

1.1.2 IFLA's Long-Term Policy

IFLA's Long-Term Policy aims to support the role and mission of the Federation: to advance the leadership role of its members for the benefit of society and to create a visionary framework for the development of the library profession.

The international library profession requires a clear indication for future action, a strategic plan to ensure that the profession knows where it is going and why. IFLA's Long-Term Policy is formulated both for its members as well as for the Federation itself to enable them to establish its strategy, plans and programmes that affect the next 10 to 15 years. IFLA'S operational plans, based on Long-Term Policy, are reflected in its Medium-Term Programme.

The Long-Term Policy is based on the assumption that the library profession has common goals throughout the entire community; the level of its development may differ from region to region and from country to country because libraries and librarians operate in specific and distinct social, economic and political environments. There are, however, common concerns which all professionals and institutions share. IFLA's Long-Term Policy focuses on such concerns while allowing varying methods of implementation, depending on local circumstances. The purpose of this document is to enumerate the different issues which call for a policy response.

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1.2 Role of Libraries

Libraries, as major components of the information field, have witnessed major changes during the past two decades. Information has become one of the key elements in contemporary social and economic life. The increasing involvement of the information industry, including publishers and brokers in information processing and document delivery, as well as the application of modern information technology and telecommunications has created a new information environment in which libraries are one of the multiple partners in the information transfer chain. Library institutions must provide facilities for all users to access their collections both through traditional and electronic media for all users, thus remaining the primary source of information.

Libraries also have a central role in society as cultural and educational institutions, and as agents for promoting literacy. IFLA considers books and libraries, as well as the promotion of the reading habit, essential for better international understanding, and as such they are a fundamental precondition for peace, human rights, literacy, intellectual freedom, and a better environment for all peoples.

1.3 General Policy Issues

The monitoring of the library profession worldwide as well as observations of trends which forecast the nature and function of libraries in the coming decades have resulted in the following list of issues which require policy consideration:

- the role of libraries in the cultural and social dimension of society including their mission in the fight against illiteracy;
- provide and protect the right of every individual to have access to needed information;
- strengthening the ability of the individual to make mature, responsible decisions;
- the development of libraries in order to bridge the information gap between the information rich and the information poor;
- intellectual freedom including the protection of library materials and personnel from censorship;
- the growth of the worldwide information market and the recognition of information as a commodity;
- the improvement of the status of the profession, including education and professional development: rights and obligations of library personnel; and the development of effective professional associations;
- IFLA's leading and catalytic role among library institutions and associations;
- influencing the development and application of new information technology and telecommunications, especially those information tools, technologies and standards which assist librarians in providing services responsive to changing needs.

The above-mentioned policy issues can be grouped under four headings which form the main subjects of IFLA's Long-Term Policy: promotion of the cultural, educational, and social role of libraries in society; improvement of access to and availability of information; enhancement of the library profession; influencing the development and application of information technology

and telecommunications. These topics are considered below.

1.4 Cultural, Educational and Social Role

Libraries are considered the historical and cultural memory of society, preserving accumulated knowledge for future generations. Using modern information and audiovisual technologies, libraries are able to preserve written and oral traditions and literary expressions in both the book and other information media and protect the originality of each culture by strengthening its cultural identity.

Libraries are generally recognized as educational and cultural institutions and are the main material resources for training and education. Similarly, libraries function as information and cultural centres, and, apart from their traditional library activities, organize exhibitions, conferences, concerts, etc. for their communities.

In addition to these roles, libraries are evolving towards a new and expanded role within society. The opportunities offered by the new information technologies and by socioeconomic changes in the information market call for a redefinition of the role of libraries and librarians. It is a duty of the Federation to provide guidance on what libraries should do and how they can best serve their users.

IFLA'S Long-Term Policy will: continue to ensure that the cultural heritage of all societies is preserved and maintained; expand the role and recognition of libraries as educational and cultural centres; assist libraries, in addition to their information provision functions, to assume a commitment to continuing education by their involvement in open and distance education such as community resource centres providing access to electronic education networks; encourage the expansion of the social role of libraries by developing community information services which assist individuals and groups in daily problem solving.

1.5 Improvement of Access to and Availability of Information

One of the *raisons d'être* of library institutions is to develop, exploit, and preserve library collections on which reference, bibliographic, document supply, and other services are based; and provide cultural and educative information for decision-making, for the benefit of present and future users. In translating these general aims into practice, the main functions of libraries, in this respect, - individually and cooperatively - are: to create and provide access to bibliographic records; to provide the fullest possible range of information; and to ensure the availability of library materials, both local and foreign.

Access to information and the availability of documents, in practice, encounter several barriers and restrictions. Some works are confidential, some publications by their nature (old or fragile) have restricted availability. There are, however, numerous obstacles to availability other than those intrinsic to the publications themselves, such as: economic: shortage of acquisition funds, lack of hard currency, etc.; social and educational: inadequate education, lack of motivation,

social conditioning, etc.; physical: rural areas, small towns, handicapped users, etc.; legal: too restrictive copyright.

In its Long-Term Policy, IFLA will undertake and promote continuing actions aiming at the improvement of access to information and the availability of publications, and especially will:

- encourage its members to establish and maintain bibliographic leadership by supplying bibliographic records for library and information service communities;
- promote the development and application of international bibliographic standards, e.g., for machine-readable formats, encouraging international cooperation in this field through the establishment of international networks of bibliographic agencies;
- encourage libraries to play a leading role in public document supply, both at national and international levels, through conventional and electronic document delivery and interlending and broad cooperation with other partners in the information market;
- contribute to the reduction of existing barriers in access to information and availability of documents, while respecting the principles of copyright.

1.6 Enhancement of the Library Profession

The library profession is involved, with other professions, in activities which are dramatically changing the image of contemporary society and contributing to the development of an "information society".

The ongoing and forthcoming changes in the information environment and the new social and cultural role of libraries require that the library profession take on the challenge of promoting literacy, managing new information technologies, and functioning in an educational role. These changes have also opened new possibilities and opportunities for librarians and call for major modifications and broadening of professional skills and abilities. Librarians, first of all, should widen their professional horizons. They should accept the fact that librarians do not have a monopoly on the concern for information and that the future interest of our profession depends not on protecting our sphere of interest, but on the active role librarians will play on the information scene. For this purpose the library profession must expand career opportunities for librarians and modify accordingly the training and education facilities, while bearing in mind that the quality and reputation of library services depends to a large extent on the development of qualified staff.

An essential role in the improvement of the library profession is played by library associations, whose objectives are, among other things, the improvement of the knowledge, skills, status, and qualifications of librarians, as well as the promotion of adequate and appropriate library services in cooperation with the institutions involved. Library associations develop or assist with the provision of education and training, provide continuing professional development opportunities, and work toward the improvement of the status and conditions of service of librarians, and the promotion of equal opportunities policies.

IFLA embraces associations and institutions of different political, social and economic

background and at different levels of development. The diversity of its membership presumes a wide range of interests that are not always compatible. IFLA's essential role is to provide leadership to the entire profession and to enhance the role of libraries in society. IFLA's Long-Term Policy in the field of the development of the library profession will concentrate on:

- promotion and encouragement of professional training and education at national and international levels with particular attention to subject specialization, management and information technology skills;
- encouragement of the maintenance and development of skills to ensure that librarians themselves can undertake research work and become associated with the community of learned societies;
- encouragement of the development of library associations as contributors to the improvement of professional skills and conduct of librarians, and an understanding of the social responsibility of the profession;
- encouragement of individual library associations to adopt and promote codes of professional conduct and adherence to them;
- active cooperation with other partners in the information market to ensure the leading role of the library profession in public access to and availability of information;
- promotion of the improvement of the status of the library profession through better library services and products and through an active role of librarians in the social, cultural and educative process in the society.

1.7 Development and Application of New Information Technology

Information technology and telecommunications have an essential impact on information products and library services and the potential to change the entire nature of information services and greatly increase their range. The suppliers of electronic information services have changed the means of information transfer and extended its distribution beyond libraries. To them, traditional libraries may not compare, as a market, to the prospect of selling information directly to homes and offices. In addition to the traditional storage media, there has been increased development of computer storage technologies such as optical disc technology. Major improvements are also taking place in the speed and reliability of telecommunication facilities through electronic network development, satellite transmission, and the integration of voice and data systems.

Information technology has stimulated the development of electronic publishing and the creation of integrated systems embracing the printing, publishing and distribution chain, as well as multimedia companies from book publishing to on-line information and satellite broadcasting. Technology and the information industry are rapidly changing the international competitive information market. The implications of these changes for the library world are important.

Library institutions which have historically been responsible for providing access to printed information must adapt to new requirements and provide access to electronic media or they will be replaced by others as a primary source of information. New and expanded functions should include: access to resources in other libraries via networking, while continuing to provide access to electronic resources for those who cannot afford direct home or business access.

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IFLA's Long-Term Policy in this respect will focus on: continued monitoring and encouragement of the development of information technology, especially that having direct or potential impact on library services, products and management; promotion of the effective application of new information technology in the library profession to ensure the essential role of the library as information provider and supplier; ensuring the participation of library institutions in the elaboration of international technical standards, protocols, etc,. relevant to library practice.

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CHAPTER 2

MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMMES OF THE CORE PROGRAMMES

2.1 UNIVERSAL BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL AND INTERNATIONAL MARC (UBCIM)

Programme Concept

The Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC Programme seeks to coordinate activities aimed at the development of systems and standards for bibliographic control at the national level and the international exchange of bibliographic data. It also seeks to promote the UNIMARC format and coordinate its development and maintenance by experts.

Programme Objectives

The objective of the UBCIM Programme is to promote the exchange and use of compatible bibliographic records, among libraries in general and national bibliographic agencies in particular. The aim of the Programme will be achieved by the standardization of bibliographic descriptions and the choice and form of access points in bibliographic records. Universality will be strengthened when each country adopts the principle that its national bibliographic agency is responsible for the bibliographic compatibility of the records it produces in respect to its national imprint; such records must be produced in accordance with international bibliographic standards and must be interchangeable with those of other national bibliographic agencies, whether the records are available in machine-readable or other forms. Where national bibliographic data is in machine-readable form, the Programme aims to create and maintain standards for data exchange.

Programme Orientation

The UBCIM Programme provides a focus for all IFLA activities related to these objectives, and its programme and publications officers support administration and are responsible for the publication and dissemination of relevant information. The Programme is especially involved with the work of the Division of Bibliographic Control and its component Sections, as well as that of the Section on Information Technology. It is also concerned with those activities of other Divisions and Sections, other organizations such as ISO Technical Committee 46 (ISO/TC46), the Text Encoding Initiative, the International Serials Data System (ISDS) and Unesco, which relate to its objectives. Through its involvement with International MARC, it has a particular link with the Conference of Directors of National Libraries.

The Programme initiates action and is responsive to the needs of IFLA's professional groups. Particular projects which are of UBCIM concern therefore appear in the MTPs of those groups and only the UBCIM Programme's broad areas of interest are indicated below.

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Programme Goals for 1992-1997

1) Increase the awareness among national bibliographic agencies of the necessity of producing quality records for their national imprint, regardless of the format of the material, in accordance with international bibliographic standards and interchangeable with those of other national bibliographic agencies.

2) Promote and ensure maintenance of the UNIMARC format through a group of experts.

3) Act as a clearinghouse for information on all IFLA endeavours in the field and continue to ensure publication of studies related to international bibliographic and format standards and proceedings of relevant meetings.

4) Provide educational opportunities in the application of bibliographic standards and to facilitate availability of the standards.

2.2 UNIVERSAL AVAILABILITY OF PUBLICATIONS (UAP)

Programme Concept

The basic concept underlying the Universal Availability of Publications Programme is to make all publications available to all who require them. The Programme promotes the concept of availability through publications, seminars, conferences and educational activities. Essentially UAP is an attitude of mind made concrete, by improving methods of publication, distribution and library provision. Any international system is only as good as its national components and emphasis is placed on developing the concept within each country or group of countries with the support of government and international agencies.

Programme Objectives

UAP is both an objective and a Programme. It rests on two principles: that access to information is essential for the economic, social cultural, scientific, and technological development of nations and for the personal development of individuals; and that present systems for providing information are inadequate.

The objective is the widest possible availability of publications (that is, recorded knowledge issued for public use) to potential users wherever and whenever they are needed. The Programme seeks to identify constraints on availability and to propose, encourage, and support action to improve the present situation at all levels, from the local to the international, and at all stages, from the publication of new material to the retention of last copies. UAP is, therefore, relevant to all those involved in the production, storage, dissemination, conservation, and use of publications, from the author, publisher and distributor, through library, information, and archives services, to the user who is the ultimate beneficiary.

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Programme Orientation

UAP must be a decentralized activity. It requires the acceptance of responsibilities by individual countries and within them by professional associations, institutions, and individuals. Considerable effort is devoted to encouraging and stimulating action by others: guidance and advice play a large part in the period of the MTP. Activity undertaken centrally should enable constructive practical action to be undertaken by others. The emphasis in the future must be on practical action if UAP is not to remain a theoretical ideal.

Progress depends both on large-scale plans and on small steps forward; the latter, however, should be coordinated within a clear conceptual and practical framework. Steps taken in different and opposing directions will not result in the improvements needed. Emphasis is therefore placed on coordination. Action cannot be expected unless and until people are familiarized with the objectives and methods of achieving UAP; action also requires research to provide reliable data as a basis for recommendations and planning. Publicity and research have played a large part in the initial development of the programme, and these activities must be continued. If these emphases can be pursued successfully, the period should see a continuing move away from central activity towards a widespread and growing shift to UAP.

Programme Goals for 1992-1997

1) Continue to improve awareness of the concept of UAP and its cultural, economic and social implications, especially in Third World countries and those experiencing social and political change.

2) Study the barriers to UAP internationally, especially customs, legal and financial barriers including the changing economic environment emphasizing commercial awareness and charging for library services.

3) Encourage the growth of library resource sharing and information networks to give wider access to library collections worldwide.

4) Investigate the implications of new patterns of publication on availability including electronic publishing, the use of CD-ROM and optical discs and the wider use of audiovisual materials generally for information transfer.

2.3 PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION (PAC)

Programme Concept

The Preservation and Conservation Programme has one major goal: to ensure that library and archives materials, published and unpublished, in all formats will be preserved in accessible form for as long as possible.

Programme Objectives

1) Raise the consciousness level of government officials, of the general public, and of library administrators, staff, and users about issues of preservation in libraries and archives.

2) Educate library administrators and staff about the theories and practices of library and archives preservation.

3) Inform users of library materials of the need for preservation and conservation and of the role they can play in extending the usable life of library holdings.

4) Encourage and facilitate the training of library administrators and staff in the proper care and handling of all library materials, and of technicians and professional conservators in the preservation and conservation of library materials.

5) Encourage scientific research on the causes of deterioration in library materials and on the application of science and technology to the prevention and treatment of deterioration.

6) Promote the development of national and international standards and laws that pertain to and support the production, preservation, and treatment of library and archives materials.

7) Through cooperation and collaboration, promote the development of national and international preservation activities that support the goals and objectives of the Conservation Section and the other Core Programmes.

In the formulation of the Programme objectives, the following principles been taken into account: that the preservation of library and archives materials is essential to the survival and development of culture and scholarship; that the preservation of library materials requires close cooperation at national and international levels; and that national strategy should be guided by the principle that each country must accept responsibility for the preservation of its own imprints and for the preservation of other library and archives materials of its own civilization and culture.

Programme Orientation

Programme attention is focused on both prospective and retrospective preservation activities. Prospective preservation activities are those measures that are undertaken to prevent damage or to slow the rate at which holdings deteriorate. These activities usually involve one or more of the following: long-range preservation planning; disaster planning; maintenance of appropriate environmental conditions for the storage, use, and exhibition of materials; development of appropriate housekeeping and housing procedures; the application of mass treatments (deacidification); binding of vulnerable materials; use of proper care and handling techniques; development of appropriate education and training programmes for staff and users, and for

technicians and conservators; development of standards and non-damaging treatment procedures; and development and use of long-lasting, i.e., "permanent" materials.

Retrospective preservation refers to the reactive measures that are undertaken to correct or otherwise deal with damage or deterioration that has affected the holdings. These activities usually involve one or more of the following: on-going collections maintenance programmes (re-binding, re-housing, repair); conservation treatment of individual items; application of mass treatments (fumigation, strengthening); and reformatting of information to the same medium (photocopy, magnetic tape, photo negatives, etc.) or to a different medium (microfilm, microfiche, etc.).

Regardless of the exact nature of preservation activities in an institution, all preservation plans and programmes involve the development of sound administrative policies on collection development and preservation.

Programming during this time period will be concentrated in two areas:

1) Disseminating preservation information for the purposes of a) increasing awareness of the need for preservation and conservation among preservation professionals, government officials, and decision-makers responsible for cultural policy; b) increasing knowledge about the permanence and durability of library materials, about the proper care and handling of library materials, and about approaches to solving preservation problems; and c) promoting the development of national and international preservation policies and standards.

2) Strengthening the PAC regional centres for the purposes of a) facilitating greater regional cooperation in the field of preservation; b) developing programme activities in cooperation with other Core Programmes and with the Conservation Section; and c) promoting greater interaction between IFLA and related professional associations in the field of preservation.

Programme Goals for 1992-1997

A. Coordination and policy matters:

1) Promote and encourage the formulation of workable national preservation and conservation policies and strategies.

2) Assist in the formulation of internationally acceptable policies for the preservation and conservation of library and archives materials.

3) Coordinate international efforts on preservation and conservation of library materials and to establish working relations with international and national agencies or bodies responsible for the preservation and conservation of library and archives materials.

4) Promote and assist in the development of international standards, guidelines, and laws that facilitate the preservation of library and archives materials.

5) Cooperate with appropriate IFLA Programmes, Divisions, Sections, and Round Tables in developing a coordinated approach for IFLA's preservation activities.

6) Work cooperatively with information producers (paper, magnetic film, electronic media, etc.) in order to assure the permanence and durability of library and archives materials in the future.

B. Studies and research:

7) Encourage, promote, and undertake studies on the management of preservation programmes and on the methods of preservation and conservation and to make the results of such studies widely available.

8) Study and understand the methods of preservation in formats other than the original and to encourage their application when necessary and appropriate.

C. Raising awareness:

9) Emphasize the role and necessity of preservation and conservation of library and archives materials among government officials, library managers, and library users.

10) Encourage the establishment of national agencies and programmes and of regional centres for the preservation and conservation of library and archives materials.

11) Encourage the production and widespread use of educational tools on preservation and conservation policies and practices.

D. Training and education:

12) Provide assistance for training of specialists in preservation and conservation of library materials and for meetings of groups of experts involved in training.

13) Organize - in cooperation with national libraries - national and international conferences or seminars on preservation and conservation.

14) Assist in the development of the most efficient methods of solving the problems, of training and education in the field of preservation and conservation.

15) Publish and to encourage the publication of teaching materials on preservation and conservation.

2.4 UNIVERSAL DATAFLOW AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS (UDT)

Programme Concept

The Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications Programme seeks to facilitate the international and national exchange of electronic data by providing the library community with pragmatic approaches to resource sharing. The programme monitors and promotes the use of relevant standards (particularly those for Open Systems Interconnection), promotes the use of relevant technologies and monitors relevant policy issues in an effort to overcome barriers to the electronic transfer of data in library fields.

Programme Objectives

The objective of UDT is to promote the effectiveness of libraries and of IFLA programmes and projects by:

1) Promoting the electronic transfer of data between libraries, between libraries and their users, and between libraries and related sectors, such as publishers and providers of abstracting and indexing services or full text databases.

2) Working to reduce telecommunications barriers as they affect electronic transfer of data required by libraries, their users and their suppliers.

3) Assisting and supporting the other IFLA Core Programmes, Divisions and Sections on the means and mode of communicating electronic data relevant to libraries and related sectors.

4) Serving as a focal point in the field of UDT for monitoring developments, providing information, and supporting the promotion, implementation and use of compatible standards for library specific applications of electronic data communications.

Programme Orientation

UDT supports the other Core Programmes and the professional groups of IFLA by providing a focus for promoting the development, implementation, and use of standards necessary for electronic interchange of information by libraries both nationally and internationally. The Programme will work towards identifying and finding solutions for technological and policy barriers to electronic data transfer, and providing general consultation and advice to IFLA members on these areas.

The Programme is concerned with transfer of data *per se* rather than with the creation and intellectual content of the data, which are the concerns of the other Core Programmes and professional groups. Similarly the UDT Programme is concerned with the technical, economic and policy barriers to interconnection of computers and of telecommunications services rathe-

than with economic and policy issues pertaining to the data itself.

Programme Goals for 1992-1997

1) Increase the awareness in library and related sectors of the technical and service benefits of the electronic transfer of data, and of the barriers to such transfer.

2) Promote the development, implementation and use of telecommunications and related standards, in particular those for Open Systems Interconnection, which are relevant to the electronic transfer of data.

3) Monitor international and national telecommunications policies as they affect the electronic exchange of data in library fields.

2.5 ADVANCEMENT OF LIBRARIANSHIP IN THE THIRD WORLD (ALP)

Programme Concept

The purpose of the Core Programme for the Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World is to further the library profession, library institutions and library and information services in the less developed countries. It thus spans a wide spectrum of IFLA's activities and plays an important role within the organization as a catalyst for its Third World activities. ALP particularly concentrates on issues which are of vital importance for the developing countries and do not fall within the responsibility of the other Core Programmes.

Programme Objectives

The objectives of ALP are to promote the progressive improvement of library and information services in the developing countries, so as to enable them to play an active role in national development. Special emphasis will be placed on the creation of conditions likely to contribute towards national initiatives and systematic progress towards self-sufficiency.

Programme Orientation

The main orientation of ALP is to support librarians in the developing countries in their efforts to improve library and information services. The Programme should encourage national and regional library organizations and explore the ways and means of promoting practical and meaningful relations between IFLA and these organizations.

ALP cooperates with other partners, both within and outside IFLA. Within IFLA, the development of the special ALP areas for this MTP requires close cooperation with the Division for Libraries Serving the General Public and the Division for Education and Research and cooperative activities are being planned with the following Sections: Education and Training,

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Libraries Serving the Blind and Public Libraries.
Cooperation with other Sections and Core Programmes will follow.

ALP will also take an active part in the coordination of international efforts to support the development of library and information services in developing countries by cooperating with other organizations, such as Unesco, FID, IBBY, reading promotion organizations, and development authorities. The Programme will gradually build up contacts with international, regional and sub-regional library organizations, and contacts have been made initially with COMLA, CONSAL and the Regional Association of Public Libraries in Latin America. Experience has indicated that it is especially important and beneficial to develop such contacts in the regions and the best way of achieving this is through joint projects and activities. It is also important to give support to library associations and both in Africa and in Asia and Oceania assistance to national library associations will be important areas of activity.

Programme Goals for 1992-1997

Major programme goals for ALP for the next medium term period have been identified as: education and training, library and information services to the general public and a greater involvement of librarians with literacy programmes.

Strategies have been formulated to address these projects, and other activities will gradually be developed in accordance with these strategies. More than 20 different projects and other activities have already been recommended by the Regional Advisory Committees and some of these have started or can start soon, depending on the availability of external funds. The Regional Offices and the ALP Regional Advisory Committees will be the cornerstone of the ALP infrastructure, and human resource networks of representatives from the regions will be built up.

To begin with, the Programme will concentrate on some short term projects of acute importance to the regions, which are easy to start and monitor and for which the necessary infrastructure already exists in terms of competent persons and institutions. The Programme will also have to respond to initiatives of both short-term and long-term character by other IFLA bodies and other organizations.

ALP's goals for the MTP period are:

1) To assist library staff, library schools and library associations in education and training programmes.

ALP will concentrate on continuing education in areas where the need is the greatest: new technology, preservation and basic training for those who work with library and information services in rural areas and have no library education. Scholarships are needed both for people who need training in specific aspects of librarianship and for people who need to complete a basic library education. There is a need for better knowledge about professional competence in

the regions. The library and information resources in the Third World are often less well known than those in the industrialized countries and consequently foreign experts are used due to lack of knowledge about national competence. ALP will contribute to the availability of this information.

2) To promote the establishment and development of library and information services to the public with particular attention to the needs of rural and urban marginal areas.

The situation and thus the priorities for this area are different in the three Regions. In Latin America there exist some well-developed public library systems but there is a need to complement these with alternative library and information systems to reach new groups of users in urban marginal areas and in remote border areas, and to meet the needs of minority cultures. Projects and training activities will be developed to meet these needs. In Africa, the focus is on development of library and information services in remote rural areas and also in urban marginal areas, and projects concerning the so-called community information centres will be supported, in cooperation with other IFLA bodies and with COMLA, Unesco and others. In Asia this programme area will mainly be developed through a series of educational activities.

3) To encourage a greater involvement and identification of libraries with literacy work.

Although literacy has been identified as an area of great importance, literacy work is something of a terra incognita for librarians and very little is known about the role of libraries in literacy and post-literacy processes or about methodology. A double approach will be used: encouraging pilot projects representing different aspects of the problem,and initiating research and development.

CHAPTER 3

MEDIUM-TERM PROGRAMMES OF DIVISIONS, SECTIONS AND ROUND TABLES

3.1 DIVISION OF GENERAL RESEARCH LIBRARIES

Nature and Purpose

The Division is one of those established for types of libraries, grouping together national libraries, university and other general research libraries, and parliamentary libraries. Their professional common denominator is that they are all related in one way or other to the support and provision of research in many fields of knowledge in social, economic, and political life. They also have in common the comprehensiveness and size of their collections with the ensuing problems of handling, storage and use of large stocks and the administration of complex organizations.

Objectives

The main objective of the Division is the monitoring and evaluation of the work of its Sections. In addition it reviews the activities of the Core Programmes of IFLA which have a special bearing on the problems of general research libraries, and of the Sections set up for particular library activities which are of specific interest to national, university and parliamentary libraries.

The Division, therefore, expressly encourages cooperation between its own Sections and other Sections and the Core Programmes of IFLA. In addition cooperation with non-IFLA organizations is also practiced.

3.1.1 Section of National Libraries

Nature and Purpose

National libraries have special responsibilities, often defined in law, within a nation's library and information system. These responsibilities vary from country to country but are likely to include: the collection via legal deposit of the national imprint and its cataloguing and conservation; the provision of central services (e.g. reference, bibliographical, lending) to users both directly and through other library and information centres; the preservation and promotion of the national cultural heritage; the promotion of national cultural policy; and leadership in national literacy campaigns. National libraries often serve as a national forum for international programmes and projects. They can have a close relationship with national governments, and can act as a conduit for the views of other sectors of the profession. Occasionally they also serve the information needs of the legislature directly.

Objectives

1) Serve as a forum to share the experience of the practical problems of national libraries, and to give advice and assistance wherever possible.

2) Identify the range and nature of the tasks of a national library allowing for differing historical, political, economic, cultural and other circumstances.

3) Promote research in fields of interest to national libraries, and the exchange of ideas and information.

4) Initiate and/or contribute to activities which are of interest both to national libraries and to other libraries.

5) Further, in cooperation with pertinent Divisions, Sections, and Round Tables, the Core Programmes of IFLA.

Goals for 1992-1997

In consultation with appropriate IFLA professional groups, particular themes, projects, and meetings include:

1) Focusing on the development and implementation of strategic plans and business plans for national libraries.

2) Commercial and money-earning activities of national libraries, including charges for services and publications, and cooperation with commercial bodies.

3) Development of guidelines for the exploitation and preservation of the national imprint for the benefit of the user (a revision of the Guidelines for Legal Deposit).

4) Continuing review of the aims and functions of national libraries.

5) Fostering international and regional national library cooperation, e.g. on the acquisition of foreign imprints.

6) Survey and make recommendations on national libraries and their relationship to major collections of unpublished manuscripts and archives.

7) Assessment of the roles of the national library in national programmes of library and information research and development.

8) Examination of the national library as the national bibliographic agency (definition and responsibilities, coordination of nationwide and regional recording of library materials, coordination of bibliographic projects, terms of the availability of records, etc.)

9) Provision of national reference services and their relationship to specialized reference collections.

10) The national collection, preservation and exploitation of audiovisual and electronic media, the involvement of national libraries, and the possible need for changes in legal deposit provisions.

3.1.2 Section of Parliamentary Libraries

Nature and Purpose

Parliamentary librarianship is a distinctive form of information work. The activities of parliamentary libraries range from the identification, location, analysis, and interpretation, to the synthesis, condensation and, in some cases, simplification and popularization of information. In addition to the traditional acquisition, indexing and reference skills - to which familiarity with automation must nowadays be added - analytical skills as well as special presentation skills are required. Their central concern is not collection-building, but the concept of service including even providing research. The primary clientele are members of the legislature who both use and create information. For this reason they need adequate library, documentation, reference and information services.

The Section examines the interrelationship of the research work carried out in parliament and by public and private institutions, and the needs and work of parliament with special reference to the library and research services of parliaments themselves.

Legislative libraries include the national legislatures in the case of unitary states and both national and second-tier legislatures in the case of federal countries.

Objectives

The main objective is to provide information and programmes to improve facilities, equipment and services for existing as well as for developing parliamentary libraries, including:

1) Promotion of cooperation between legislatures and especially their libraries because of the growing need for legislators to be well informed concerning developments world-wide.

2) Promotion of fruitful relations between parliamentary libraries and parliamentary associations, and between parliamentary libraries and other relevant libraries and information services.

3) Provision of advice and assistance for the establishment of new parliamentary libraries including twinning of libraries, and the development of comprehensive parliamentary information systems. The Section, therefore, encourages bilateral and multilateral assistance and development programmes, and acts as a clearinghouse in this regard.

4) Encouragement of programmes which would foster the adaptation of the latest information technologies to parliamentary library services, in liaison with corresponding activities by other types of libraries and the appropriate Core Programmes.

5) Encouragement of communication between those responsible for parliamentary library service, the parliamentary administration, their staff and their users.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Facilitate communication between legislative libraries and the Section by continuing the publication of its World Directory of National Parliamentary Libraries. This publication will be complemented by the compilation of other international directories, e.g. a World Directory of Non-National Parliamentary Libraries.

2) Continue the cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), and establish relationships with other international parliamentary associations, e.g. the Assemblée internationale des parlementaires de langue française (AIPLF); encourage the establishment, of and cooperate with, regional groups of parliamentary libraries, e.g., the Association of Parliamentary Librarians of Asia and the Pacific (APLAP) or the Working Group of Libraries of the European Center for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD).

3) Give guidance to the establishment of comprehensive parliamentary information systems, controlled by the parliamentary library, by preparing and publishing Guidelines for Legislative Libraries.

4) Examine the administrative arrangements within parliaments with regard to library information and research services.

3.1.3 Section of University Libraries and Other General Research Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The Section brings together university libraries and general research libraries outside universities. Through international cooperation between such libraries the Section aims at a worldwide and continuous improvement of service to their users.

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Objectives

1) Alert university and other research libraries throughout the world to issues and problems that these libraries face in achieving goals of service to users.

2) Serve, through IFLA meetings and publications, as a forum for the exposition and consideration of these issues and problems and for the presentation of significant developments in university and research libraries.

3) Foster cooperative programmes that enhance information resources of value to the scholarly community.

4) Particularly apply these objectives in the context of university and research libraries in developing countries.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) A study of the role and purpose of the university library and its services to the various categories of users around the turn of the century, particularly in view of new demands of research and education and of the impact of new information demands and technologies.

2) The continuing study of performance measurement in university libraries.

3) A study of problems and solutions in relation to resource sharing with other libraries and other types of libraries, including libraries in developing countries.

4) A study of problems and solutions linked to the growth and composition of university library collections and the introduction of new media, especially audiovisual and computer-related media, and their use in university libraries.

5) The production of guidelines regarding staff development and appraisal in university and other general research libraries.

6) A continuing study of library security.

7) A study of problems and solutions with respect to the funding of university libraries and general research libraries, including sponsoring and other extra-mural funding.

8) The continuing investigation and promotion of support for university libraries and general research libraries in developing countries.

Where possible and useful, cooperation will be sought with other IFLA Sections.

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3.2 DIVISION OF SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Nature and Purpose

The Division coordinates administratively the organization and programmes in general of the Sections of the Division. Special Libraries is characterized by the type of library rather than by library function, e.g., art libraries, rather than cataloguing.

The libraries of the Division serve particular groups of users in particular disciplines or groups of disciplines, or in specific organizations e.g., government libraries in government departments. They range from large libraries covering such wide fields as the social sciences or technology to very small libraries of specialized institutions or individual companies. They all, however, provide a specialized information service for their clientele and are particularly interested in documentation and in access to all forms of information about their fields. They often have links with the relevant document and information producers themselves, e.g., mapping agencies, patent offices, and with government and other agencies in their respective fields.

Objectives

As a group the Division is concerned to encourage special librarianship as a whole and to facilitate good working relations between special librarians; documentation producers, and their users.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Encouraging professional exchange by forming groups within their own countries and between countries, especially in the developing countries and in Eastern Europe.

2) Promoting education and training of special librarians e.g., by means of workshops, satellite meetings and staff exchanges.

3) Re-constitution of the journal INSPEL's editorial board and drafting of an editorial policy to cover a wider number of special libraries' interests, and to ensure its contribution to special librarianship as a whole.

4) Encouraging the publication of guides, directories, discussion papers, etc., on special libraries.

5) Cooperating with IFLA Core Programmes as applied to special library fields.

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3.2.1 Section of Art Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The Section endeavors to represent libraries and organizations concerned with all formats of textual and visual documentation for the visual arts, including fine arts, applied arts, design and architecture.

The Section strives to improve access to information about these subjects for users of independent research libraries, museum libraries, art libraries attached to educational institutions, and art departments within national, college, university and public libraries, government departments and agencies and libraries in cultural centres.

Objectives

1) Promote the development, use and good management of libraries documenting the visual arts.

2) Enhance the creation, study and enjoyment of the visual arts through these libraries.

3) Provide an international forum for the free exchange of information and materials on art.

4) Encourage the activities of national and regional societies of art librarians and visual resources curators.

5) Further the aims of ALP and UAP in the subject area of art.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Share information and expertise on art libraries collections, publications, databases, networks and union lists, that contribute significantly to the Section's objectives.

2) Identify areas which are still needed in the above mentioned fields.

3) Enhance bibliographic access to and control of the literature of art, especially by promoting the production and publication of national and other appropriate bibliographies.

4) Extending the reach of the Section's effectiveness as an international forum of information for art and visual librarians by means of publications, conferences and personal contacts.

3.2.2 Section of Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The Section represents and acts as a forum for special libraries collecting materials and offering services in the biological and medical sciences.

Objectives

The Section's general aims include the promotion of cooperation between biological and medical sciences libraries, facilitating the sharing of technology relevant to those libraries, the consideration of means of making better provision of health care information to health care consumers, and the promotion of cooperative activity between national library associations of biological and medical sciences libraries and the promotion of cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), FID and other relevant international bodies.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Coordination of planning for the 7th International Congress on Medical Librarianship to be held in Washington, D.C. in 1995.

2) Arrange the selection of the venue for the 8th ICML, in line with previously agreed criteria.

3) Prepare a promotional leaflet for the Section in the IFLA official languages.

4) Cooperate in shared programmes with regional groups such as EAHIL and related groups such as the International Association for Medical Informatics.

5) Preparation of a directory of medical libraries in the world.

6) Preparation of related sub-series of regional directories.

7) Preparation of materials in support of training activities for medical librarians in less-developed regions.

8) Undertake activity to identify, and promote the use of, existing computing networks by medical libraries.

9) Extend the work of the Section's Newsletter into such activities as promoting the exchange of library materials and library staff.

10) Facilitate the exchange of materials in biology and medicine, through cooperative efforts.

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3.2.3 Section of Geography and Map Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The Section represents and acts as a forum for all libraries, whether special libraries or departments of larger libraries, which collect and offer services in the area of geographic and cartographic information.

Objectives

The main objectives of the Section are to promote, improve and coordinate at the international level the documentation, use and dissemination of geographic and cartographic information, and to stimulate good practice in the care and management of collections containing this information. These objectives are achieved by initiating projects and studies, the findings of which are published in the form of technical monographs, occasional papers, standards, cataloguing rules, manuals, directories, bibliographies, newsletters, etc. In addition, close liaison with cartographic, geographic and related organizations is created and maintained.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Improve the international audience of the Section by encouraging others to join, for example, from Germany, Italy and Sweden in Europe, French and Spanish-speaking developing countries, and Eastern European countries.

2 a) Study the automation of bibliographic records and the standardization of authorities (in liaison with the Permanent UNIMARC Committee).

2 b) Study the retrospective conversion of map collections in Europe, and elsewhere.

3) Digital Mapping and Map Record Automation. Issue a series of occasional papers dealing with the legal implications of digital data (1992); this publication to be followed by ones on the automation of records, conversions and the documentation of digital mapping.

4) Encourage close liaison with cartographic, geographic, map and spatial information organizations, in particular, ICA, IGU, LIBER, and National Surveys.

5) Organize workshops for managing map and spatial data collections in developing countries.

6) Update its own database in order to publish the 4th edition of the World Directory of Map Libraries.

3.2.4 Section of Government Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The Section is aimed at the community of libraries which are a part of and work for a body with a governing task and which have, in any way, a political responsibility or connection: a central government administration, a government department or a government agency. Such a government can be at any level, be it local, regional, state, federal or international.

Objectives

The objective is to help government libraries to cope with the difficulties they meet in their position of strong dependence on the parent organization, not only in terms of budget, but also in terms of function and techniques. For this purpose the Section should serve as a network, formulate advice on the main topics of interest, and be a place for exchanging experience. The network will be developed by using as a base the membership of libraries with large resources (in staff, collections, databases, etc.) which are in a position to help government libraries in other countries.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Search for new Section members which can be strong contributing members of the network. In 1994 an evaluation of the new approach of the Standing Committee will be made, including the question of whether the active search for new members can be broadened to smaller countries (which can profit from network participation), and to other government-owned organizations.

2) Consideration of two topics, which will be worked out in two phases: a meeting phase and a publication phase. The publications will be in the form of advice to the community of government librarians in the world. The topics are: a) the library's dependence on or independence from the central computer department of the parent organization: possibilities and alternatives; and b) the financial implications of governmental library work: problems of budgeting; possibilities for getting things done by private companies; how to bring in revenue from the library's products and services.

3.2.5 Section of Science and Technology Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The Section brings together special libraries collecting materials in, and offering access to, information about the physical sciences and technology to users in science and technology departments of national libraries, university and polytechnic libraries, public libraries and corporate and government research libraries. The Section collaborates with the International Association of Technological University Libraries (IATUL).

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Objectives

1) Provide a forum for discussion on working methods and services of libraries in the physical sciences and technology.

2) Promote the training of librarians for libraries in the physical sciences and technology.

3) Engage in projects, in cooperation with other Sections of IFLA interested in the subject, with UAP and UDT, and with other international organizations, for the analysis of new challenges with which science and technology libraries are faced, as well as for the preparation and implementation of appropriate proposals.

4) Extend the effectiveness of the Section as an international focus for physical sciences and technology librarianship.

5) Engage in such comparable activities as may advance the professional competence and enhance the status of librarians in science and technology libraries.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Organize satellite meetings with IATUL.

2) Arrange publication of papers delivered at Section meetings.

3) Prepare for publication A Guide to Sources of Doctoral Dissertations in Science and Technology and other bibliographic works as may be desirable and worthwhile.

3.2.6 Section of Social Science Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The Section has as its main objective that of enhancing the performance of social science libraries worldwide. The Section intends to accomplish that by providing a forum for discussion and interchange of knowledge among librarians in the broad and varied fields of the social sciences, by promoting and undertaking projects likely to be of high utility, and by publicizing both resources and techniques of interest to social science libraries.

Objectives

1) Supporting the aims of UAP in the social sciences by identifying initiatives which contribute specifically to this end, and furthering their accomplishments; and by compiling and publishing a series of directories and other resource publications in the social sciences.

2) Promoting training for the special requirements of social science librarians, in cooperation with other Sections of IFLA.

3) Identifying and promoting research likely to be useful to social science libraries.

4) Promoting cooperation with other international bodies concerned with similar subject fields such as FID/Social Sciences and Information Documentation (FID/SD) and the International Committee for Social Science Information and Documentation (ICSSD).

5) Offering guidance and expertise in solving problems encountered in the use of new technology.

6) Assisting in coordinating bibliographic activities and publicizing activities outside the Section.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Continuation of resource publications and directories with one new publication sponsored every other year, if possible.

2) Organization of pre- or post-conference satellite meetings every two or three years on timely and pertinent topics.

3) Organization of a workshop at most annual conferences on themes relevant to social science libraries.

4) Organization of a programme session at each annual conference on a theme that is important to social science librarianship.

5) Continued successful publication of and enhanced visibility for the SSID Liaison Bulletin.

6) Creation of an award to be presented biennially for research likely to be useful to social science librarians.

3.3 DIVISION OF LIBRARIES SERVING THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Nature and Purpose

The Division groups together libraries serving the general public, and promotes the improvement of library and information services to all people, by providing leadership and encouragement to its members.

Objectives

The Division initiates projects, supervises their accomplishment and coordinates the activities of its Sections, Round Tables and Working Groups. Special emphasis will be placed on cooperation between Sections and Round Tables during the upcoming MTP period.

Types of libraries included in this Division offer services to the general population, to groups that require special attention, such as the disabled, the illiterate, prison inmates, shut-ins, hospital patients and others, and provide access to recorded knowledge in whatever form required as well as opportunities for both study and recreation. The types of libraries covered by this Division also make a contribution to the increase of literacy and the enhancement of fundamental and continuing education.

Goals for 1992-1997

The Division during this period will particularly promote libraries serving the general public in developing countries and prepare projects, mount workshops and satellite meetings in conjunction with Division VIII. It plans to work, in consultation with the appropriate IFLA professional groups, as follows:

1) Prepare, publish and continue to update guidelines produced by its Sections, Round Tables and Working Groups and make these guidelines available in IFLA languages as well as other languages, as the need arises.

2) Re-establish the Working Group on Indigenous Publishing and start the pilot project in Zimbabwe based on the feasibility study already completed. Following successful completion of this pilot project, continue with the project in other African countries. Conduct feasibility studies in Latin America and Asia and proceed with pilot projects after special needs have been established in particular countries.

3) Prepare a programme of action to combat illiteracy (a divisional project).

4) Work with library schools on education and training for librarians, to sensitize them to the needs of the special publics such as multicultural communities, the disadvantaged, the deaf, the blind, the handicapped, which they may be called upon to serve. This project will entail the preparation of guidelines, which should accommodate different modes of training depending on national circumstances.

5) Define and study the needs of the elderly [scheduled for the second half of the MTP].

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3.3.1 Section of Children's Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The Section's major purpose is to support the provision of library service to children throughout the world.

Objectives

Its main objectives are to promote international cooperation in the fields of library services to children, and to encourage the exchange of experience and research in all aspects of this subject. The Section's concerns include the provision of library services to all children, including children in multilingual communities, in rural areas, and in developing countries, the handicapped and the socially deprived, and adults concerned with children and books. Also of importance to the Section is the provision of resources to those involved in the production and study of children's literature and related materials.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Encourage the development and maintenance of literacy projects.

2) Make available research relevant to the provision of library services to young people.

3) Encourage the use of newer media in a library context.

4) Encourage excellence in training for children's librarians.

5) Develop guidelines for library work with young adults.

3.3.2 Section of Libraries for the Blind

Nature and Purpose

The Section reflects the interest in library services for the blind and other print-handicapped readers. The main purposes of the Section are to promote national and international cooperation in this field, and to encourage research and development in all aspects of this area, thus improving the availability and quality of materials for the blind and other print-handicapped.

Objectives

To achieve its objectives, the Section is concerned with implementation of service goals, standardization of materials, problems of copyright, bibliographic control of materials, relaxation of postal regulations and customs laws, and the identification of the locations of special format collections for the blind and other print-handicapped readers.

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Goals for 1992-1997

1) Further awareness of the need for equal opportunities in all fields of library service for print-handicapped readers and the provision of information on library services to them.

2) Encourage the establishment of library service to print-handicapped populations in countries where it does not exist and the expansion of service where it does: by setting up training seminars for developing countries; by recruiting new members into IFLA and the Section from libraries, associations and agencies involved in the field of library services to the print-handicapped; by encouraging the training and continuing education of professionals in the field of service to print-handicapped readers.

3) Remove the major obstacles to the free international flow of special format materials: by investigating and clarifying questions of copyright; by developing and promoting UAP procedures for special format materials; by developing recommended standards for production of braille and talking books and large print editions; by the establishment of national union catalogues of literature and other materials for the print-handicapped; by promoting international interlibrary loan materials for print-handicapped readers.

4) Cooperate with the appropriate international organizations: by recognizing the needs of the users, and by promoting cooperation between libraries serving print-handicapped readers and user organizations.

3.3.3 Section of Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons

Nature and Purpose

The Section focuses on services to members of the community who are not able to avail themselves of conventional library services, who need support in using these services or who need library services which are adapted to their special needs. Such services should be found in all types of libraries.

Objectives

The Section provides a forum for the discussion of topics relating to services for people who are disadvantaged in the use of conventional library services and materials, and for cooperation on projects advancing the level of services internationally. Of particular concern are:

1) The availability of and access to suitable resources for people who require alternative materials and/or services.

2) The development of guidelines for access to library buildings, collections and services for people who are unable to make use of conventional library resources, including the application of aids.

3) Raising the awareness of professionals and the development of educational and staff training materials in the field.

4) Information collection and exchange.

5) Promotion of the recognition and acceptance of the responsibility for provision of library service by all types of libraries to all groups of people including those with special needs.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Development of easy-to-read publications and raising awareness of the provision of such materials and associated services in libraries.

2) Provision and promotion of services to the deaf.

3) Provision and promotion of library services in prisons and the development of guidelines.

4) Provision of library services to elderly persons, e.g., the housebound, and the development and promotion of guidelines. (Work in this field should be carried out in cooperation with the Division.)

5) Education and training of library staff serving people who are disadvantaged in the use of conventional library services, by developing materials which can stimulate and assist training efforts.

6) Application of technology for the enhancement of library services to persons who would otherwise be disadvantaged library users or non-users, in order to secure their access to information.

7) Provision of library services to hospital patients, the updating of guidelines and their promotion.

3.3.4 Section on Library Services to Multicultural Populations

Nature and Purpose

The Section brings together libraries interested in the development and availability of library services designed to meet the needs of cultural and linguistic minorities, in the belief that all segments of the population in each country should have access to appropriate library and information services. To achieve this, the Section seeks to promote planning and provision of such services by making available information on their organization and practice, and on materials suitable for linguistic and cultural communities.

Objectives

The Section provides a forum for the exchange of information concerning the development of multiscript, multilingual, and multicultural library and information services. Its work includes:

1) Making information available on library provision, practice and materials in all formats for linguistic and cultural minorities for librarians planning and carrying out the provision of such services. Working towards the integration of multicultural and multilingual services into the general management of libraries.

2) Promoting the study of library services to multicultural populations in library and information studies departments of universities and colleges throughout the world.

3) Promoting research on multicultural library services. Cooperating with other national and international organizations working in this field.

4) Supporting IFLA Core Programmes and Division programmes through research and other projects where appropriate.

5) Combating racism among library workers and management, and promoting an enlightened approach to racial matters in the selection of library materials.

Goals

1) Encourage the development of information and research on library provision, practice, and a variety of materials for linguistic and cultural minorities; report on research and practice related to services to multicultural populations.

2) Provide bibliographic guidance to the literature of library provision for multicultural populations.

3) Revise and publish guidelines on library services to multicultural populations.

4) Monitor developments in library education related to multicultural populations.

5) Encourage the employment of linguistic and cultural minorities in libraries.

6) Survey current management practice of library services to multicultural populations.

7) Raise awareness amongst other IFLA groups regarding matters of mutual interest, e.g., library education, use of technology, multiscript automation, etc.

3.3.5 Section of Public Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The Section serves as a forum for all types of libraries serving the general public.

Objectives

The aims of the Section are to promote all matters concerning the provision of public library service in every environment, its objectives and policy, its theory and practice, and its standards and techniques, working in cooperation with the appropriate IFLA professional groups.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Arrange seminars on public library services and policy, particularly in developing countries, with a view to considering options which will lead to an improvement of public library provision.

2) Conduct research in order to identify countries which have developed successful programmes to combat illiteracy and establish guidelines for public libraries involved in work against illiteracy.

3) Propose a revision of the Unesco Public Library Manifesto (1972) in order to reflect changes which have occurred since publication.

4) Carry out testing of the Unesco manual on Measuring the Performance of Public Libraries, with an emphasis on developing countries.

5) Promote the effective use of information technology in public library services.

6) Undertake a pilot project in a developing country based on the report on rural community information.

7) Review user participation in selected countries and establish guidelines which will assist public libraries to mobilize the support of users.

8) Make recommendations based on good practices concerning the effective provision of multimedia materials in public libraries.

9) Identify the role of the public library in the provision of business information and establish guidelines for such services.

10) Consider the role of the public library in relation to formal and informal education.

11) Determine how public libraries can best cooperate in providing cost-effective access to little-used materials on national and international levels including redistribution of surplus materials through a networking system.

3.3.6 Section of School Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The use of school libraries is the foundation for the use of all other libraries. Literacy is nurtured in schools and is the prerequisite for all subsequent library and information use. In a technological world where daily access to information becomes a more and more essential tool, effective school libraries have a significant contribution to make.

In schools, the role of school librarians is to encourage reading for pleasure and information, including provision for research, academic study, scientific, technical and social information, bibliographic data, and access to recorded knowledge in all its forms. Library programmes and services, being wide-ranging, are essential in meeting curricular needs and interests of students and teachers. Vital to such provision is the existence of adequately-trained school librarians, appropriate government policy, and effective links with the library information infrastructure, and the community.

Objectives

1) Promotion of school library services in all parts of the world to ensure that they meet the needs of all user groups.

2) Delineation of the role of school libraries.

3) Promotion of the role of school libraries.

4) Promotion of research in the field of school librarianship.

5) Encouragement of initial training and continuing education of school librarians.

6) Enhancement of the image of the school librarian.

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Goals for 1992-1997

1) Show how academic achievement is influenced by an effective school library programme.

2) Promote the role of school libraries in the cultural dimension of society.

3) Help school librarians improve their skills.

3.3.7 Round Table of Children's Literature Documentation Centres

Nature and Purpose

The Round Table, established under the Section of Children's Libraries, supports children's literature documentation centres that record and investigate historic and contemporary children's literature and the related professional literature, and documentation centres that provide research materials on children's literature and reading habits.

Objectives

The Round Table promotes the preservation of children's literature through national deposit collections as an essential part of the UAP Programme. It encourages the exchange of information about the tracing and recording of new books and articles and the collections and conservation of previously published children's books and other related materials from different countries.

Goals for 1992-1997

In consultation with appropriate IFLA professional groups:

1) Update the directory of key centres in each country.

2) Stimulate the establishment of national centres on children's literature.

3) Work towards the goal of a thesaurus in several languages.

4) Stimulate the library schools toward the training of specialists in running documentation centres on children's literature.

5) Publish notices concerning scholarship sources, institutions which accept internships, and other opportunities for further training and education.

3.3.8 Round Table - International Association of Metropolitan City Libraries (INTAMEL)

Nature and Purpose

INTAMEL provides a forum for professional discussion and exchange of information between librarians of cities throughout the world with 400,000 or more inhabitants. As a Round Table of the Division since 1976, INTAMEL reflects inter-divisional interests as they apply to large metropolitan city libraries.

Objectives

The Round Table exists to facilitate channels of communication between those responsible for managing library services in large cities. The principal objectives are to provide assistance and support for members sharing similar problems and challenges, given the wide variations in the state of development of library services between cities and between countries. The work of INTAMEL includes:

1) Liaising with other groups as appropriate, both within and outside IFLA, to encourage and assist in the provision of the highest standards of service in metropolitan city libraries.

2) Organizing an annual General Assembly and Conference, with the purpose of studying the library services and related activities in and around one of the member cities.

3) Collecting and publishing statistics relating to member libraries.

4) Publishing an occasional Newsletter for members, to provide awareness of developments in metropolitan city libraries.

5) Facilitating the exchange of books and other publications, and the exchange of staff temporarily for training purposes, between member libraries.

Goals for 1992-1997

The twin goals will be to increase the truly international coverage of INTAMEL (given that current membership is represented largely by European and North American Libraries), and to improve communication with members.

3.3.9 Round Table on Mobile Libraries

Nature and Purpose

The Round Table, established at Division level, is concerned with all aspects of mobile library operations and services. Mobile libraries operate in both rural and urban environments providing flexibility in library service provision in areas where it is not feasible to operate static service points. The Round Table is developing its activities worldwide, including those countries which have, at present, few or no mobile libraries.

Objectives

1) Promote equitable access to library services through mobile libraries.

2) Encourage the development of library services via mobile libraries.

3) Provide an international forum for the exchange of information and experience on mobile libraries.

4) Foster awareness of the importance, value and special nature of mobile library services.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Furthering the knowledge of mobile library services by providing current and relevant information on all aspects of operations and activities.

2) Raising the awareness of the library community of the special nature of mobile library services by promotional strategies.

3) Encouraging the use of mobile libraries in meeting the needs of disadvantaged members of the community, including the disabled, housebound and functionally illiterate, by the dissemination of information.

4) Undertaking publishing programmes to foster international understanding of the role and nature of mobile libraries.

3.3.10 Round Table on National Centres for Library Services (ROTNAC)

Nature and Purpose

The Round Table, established at the Division level, groups managers of national centres for library services. It encourages cooperation between its members and promotes central services.

Objectives

1) Management of ROTNAC to function as a platform for the managers of the centres and as a meeting point for cooperation.

2) Promotion of central services.

3) Exchange of information on working methods, price setting, and new developments, etc.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Increase membership of ROTNAC.

2) Monitor developments within the membership countries and national centres.

3) Discuss international developments with reference to national centres and central services.

3.4 DIVISION OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL

Nature and Purpose

The general aim of the Division is to promote and support IFLA's programme for Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (with special attention to developing countries), through the coordination of the activities of its constituent Sections and in close cooperation with the UBCIM Core Programme.

Objectives

1) Improve the exchange of bibliographic data through the standardization of practice in bibliographic systems (construction, organization and retrieval) and through the careful cooperative identification and codification of universal bibliographic principles in accordance with technological developments.

2) Develop guidelines for the practical implementation of UBCIM.

3) Further the ability of library users to retrieve information easily and effectively.

4) Promote the education of users in the issues surrounding universal bibliographic control.

5) Promote the education of librarians and those studying to become librarians in the principles of bibliographic control.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Organize seminars, workshops, etc. in the areas of bibliography, cataloguing and classification and indexing.

2) Articulate the issues that impede the achievement of universal bibliographic control and identify and implement the solutions to those problems.

3) Disseminate and publicize the results of investigations not only within the Sections of the Division but also to other professional groups within and outside IFLA.

4) Produce guidelines for the practice of bibliographic control.

3.4.1 Section on Bibliography

Nature and Purpose

The Section aims to promote bibliographic activities in both theory and practice.

Objectives

1) Establish a forum for discussion of questions concerning the principles of different types of bibliography, especially national bibliography.

2) Set guidelines and recommendations for the improvement of national bibliographic control and the international exchange of bibliographic information, taking into account the effect of new technologies, the state of development of different countries and of users' needs.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Improvement of national bibliographic control, and in particular: the improvement of national bibliography by encouraging the creation of national bibliographies in countries where they do not exist, and by promoting their automation in less technically advanced countries; the improvement of retrospective bibliographic control; the development of authority control at the international level.

2) Improvement of bibliographic control of national and international grey literature, including the publications of intergovernmental organizations.

3) Study of the effectiveness of bibliographic services in relationship to users' needs.

4) Promotion of bibliographic knowledge amongst both experienced and inexperienced users, including librarians.

3.4.2 Section on Cataloguing

Nature and Purpose

The Section provides a focus and forum for the identification of issues in international cataloguing and the development of solutions that address common problems. The Section strives to further universal bibliographic control and the international exchange of bibliographic information through the development of standards, guidelines, and other documents which promote a common understanding of the acceptable techniques to be applied to the cataloguing of library materials. The Section also promotes the dissemination of information about the accepted principles of cataloguing through its publications and conference programmes and seminars.

Objectives

1) Remove the barriers that limit the applicability of bibliographic standards universally and that impede the international exchange of records.

2) Evaluate the principles of heading construction with reference to new technology.

3) Study the users' needs which are related to accessing documents by evaluating the consequences of cataloguing in the light of user searching, retrieval capabilities, display of records and indexes, and simplification of the ISBDs.

4) Monitor the continuing usefulness and effectiveness of the ISBDs.

5) Provide direction to the UBCIM Programme in undertaking projects essential to the successful adoption of the principles of Universal Bibliographic Control

6) Monitor the continuing usefulness and effectiveness of the UNIMARC programme.

7) Continue close cooperation with ISO TC/46.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Give full consideration to proposals for the simplification of the ISBDs.

2) Review regularly the need for new ISBDs.

3) Provide programmes in the area of retrospective conversion with special attention to the needs of developing countries.

4) Assist the UBCIM Office in the development of programmes to educate and inform librarians around the world about Universal Bibliographic Control.

5) Evaluate the applicability of UNIMARC to non-book materials including the products of new technologies.

6) Develop guidelines for the use of local data fields in UNIMARC with special reference to preservation data.

7) Examine language-dependent cataloguing practices (e.g., notes prepared in the language of the cataloging agency) and their effects upon international exchange of records.

8) Propose methods to improve the handling of multiscript records and the integration of such records in various types of bibliographic files.

9) Assess the problems and prospects of linking various single language and/or multilingual name authority files.

10) Re-examine the principles of heading construction, including, in addition to the study of corporate names, an investigation of the issues of transliteration, simplification, and the construction of uniform titles.

11) Study how users need to access documents and devise methods of enriching the catalogue record to respond to user needs, for example by adding information about the content of the document (e.g., summary, table of contents).

3.4.3 Section on Classification and Indexing

Nature and Purpose

The Section addresses areas of interest involved in providing subject access to collections in catalogues, bibliographies, and union catalogues, and works to facilitate international exchange of information. It provides access to information of interest to academic, public, national, governmental, and other special libraries.

Objectives

1) Be a forum for users and producers of classification and subject indexing tools.

2) Promote standardization and uniform application of such tools by institutions generating or utilizing bibliographic records.

3) Initiate and give advice on research in the subject approach to information and disseminate the results through open meetings and publications.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Further opportunities for communication in the areas of classification and subject indexing.

2) Identify areas in which initiatives in subject access to information are still needed, and to promote and/or develop specific projects.

3) Promote standardization and uniform application of classification and subject indexing tools by identifying and working on needed standards.

4) Encourage research in the subject approach to information and disseminate the results through open meetings and publications.

5) Work with other appropriate groups to encourage communication and joint participation in activities.

3.5 DIVISION OF COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

Nature and Purpose

The main purpose of the Division is the international improvement of collection building and services to readers.

Objectives

The Division's objectives will be to conduct studies and projects on the acquisitions and collection management of all materials (including access to databases) such as serial and official publications, government information, rare books and manuscripts, and distributing them through interlending and document delivery.

In order to realize these aims, the Division acknowledges the importance of providing bibliographic access to materials, of providing reference services, of promoting interlibrary lending and document delivery, and of conserving materials for current and future users. Consequently, the Division will encourage and initiate studies and projects that support the five IFLA Core Programmes. In further support of its main objectives, the Division will establish working contacts with other IFLA Divisions, and international organizations with similar interests.

Goals for 1992-1997

The Division will concentrate on encouraging the work of its Sections in cooperating with the appropriate IFLA groups in the areas of universal availability of publications, bibliographic access to materials, conservation of collections, and the implementation of new technologies and networks for collection building and services. Specific concerns are:

1) Responsibilities of governments and the library community for collection building and library services.

2) Encouragement of resource sharing through library networks, consortia, the electronic transfer of information and publications, or other agreements between libraries.

3) International support for all IFLA Core Programmes that help strengthen collection development, resources, and services to users.

4) Examination of the impact of technology on the quality and efficiency of collection building and related services in libraries.

3.5.1 Section on Acquisition and Exchange

Nature and Purpose

The Section concerns itself extensively with methodological and topical themes pertaining to acquisition, exchange, collection-building and collection management in all types of libraries worldwide. Recognizing that these concerns are not isolated, the Section attempts to draw connections wherever possible, and to cooperate fully with other Sections.

Objectives

1) Promote international library cooperation in the field of collection development.

2) Investigate and study the theory and practice of acquisition work in general, including exchange methodology.

3) Bring together all those involved in the processes leading up to acquisitions (e.g., librarians, vendors/agents, publishers) in order to plan with libraries and their users the best methods of working together to the mutual benefit of all concerned.

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Goals for 1992-1997

Permanent goals:

1) Study the links between libraries, publishers and booksellers, including the problems of international pricing policies and price indexes.

2) Study the practice and policy of international exchange, and prepare a continuing bibliography on the subject.

5-year goals:

3) Identify the challenge of integrating interactive (electronic) media into collection building and collection development.

4) Study national acquisition policies and resource-sharing (e.g., Conspectus, core collections of periodicals, de-acquisition and weeding).

5) Identify barriers to acquisitions and steps for their elimination or alleviation, with particular reference to developing countries.

6) Study methods for the acquisition of grey literature.

3.5.2 Section on Government Information and Official Publications

Nature and Purpose

The Section is concerned with government information of all kinds, ranging from data in electronic format to printed publications. The Section brings together librarians, information managers, document specialists and government publishers and printers in order to promote communication between producers and users of government information

Objectives

1) Ensure as a basic human right universal freedom of access to information on government policies and activities.

2) Provide an international forum for the free exchange of information among librarians and government publishers and printers.

3) Encourage governments to provide information.

4) Promote the education of library staff, especially from developing countries, in the field of government information and the administration of government publications collections.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Facilitate access to government information for the public by means which include the use of new technologies (online databases, CD-ROM).

2) Further the aims of UBCIM in updating the recommendations for the form and structure of corporate headings for government and international bodies.

3) Promote the development of reference sources on government information.

4) Facilitate the exchange of government publications and information between libraries.

3.5.3 Section on Interlending and Document Delivery

Nature and Purpose

The Section groups libraries and library departments that are responsible for and interested in making publications, in all formats, more widely available and easily accessible throughout the world. The Section works closely with the IFLA Office of International Lending to achieve the objectives and goals listed below.

Objectives

The objectives of the Section are to promote interlibrary lending and document delivery both nationally and internationally in support of the UAP Programme, using rapidly developing technology as well as traditional methods to extend and accelerate the availability of documents.

Goals for 1992-1997

Studies and projects:

1) Optimization of union catalogues, i.e., the levels to which union catalogues can be economically and technically developed, and criteria for the selection of libraries that should contribute to them.

2) Impact of electronic publishing and other forms of automation on interlibrary lending, in order to speed up document delivery and to deliver documents in the most useful form as promptly as possible.

3) Preservation and interlibrary lending, i.e., the development of guidelines governing the packaging of materials in different formats.

4) Impact of copyright on document delivery in all forms.

5) Principles and practices in charging for interlending and document delivery.

6) Special problems of interlibrary lending in developing countries and areas.

7) Regional seminars and other forms of training for specialists in interlibrary lending and document delivery.

8) Special problems of interlibrary lending on non-book materials.

3.5.4 Section on Rare Books and Manuscripts

Nature and Purpose

The Section provides a forum for discussion of the particular concerns associated with the collection, preservation, bibliographic control, and use of rare books and manuscripts in all types of libraries.

Objectives

Through its conference programmes, projects, and studies, the Section attempts to promote the understanding of the significance of rare and unique resources for scholarly research in an international context. It supports the objectives of the five IFLA Core Programmes and encourages cooperation with other international organizations such as ICA and ICOM.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Continuation of relevant and stimulating programme meetings for each annual IFLA Conference.

2) Cooperation with other IFLA Sections in the joint sponsorship of workshops and satellite meetings at IFLA Conferences.

3) Active involvement of representatives from a wider range of countries in the work of the Section.

4) Completion and publication of A World Directory of Museums of the Book.

5) Continuation of active sponsorship of the Annual Bibliography of the History of the Book through an Advisory Board to the Editor.

6) Continued promotion of the joint project with ICA of an International Directory to Major Repositories of Literary and Artistic Archives.

7) Continued support for the Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrücke.

8) Support for national and international projects of machine-readable conversion of bibliographic records for early printed books and the integration of bibliographical databases.

9) Initiation of a project to bring under effective bibliographic control collections of auction and antiquarian booksellers' catalogues in an international context.

3.5.5 Section on Serial Publications

Nature and Purpose

The Section's purpose is to consider the issues that make serial publications unique, including bibliographic standards and control, holdings information, availability, conservation, management, and the related effects of technology on serials (to include both the machine storage of such information and the impact on journal publishing).

Objectives

The Section's objectives include the evaluation, assessment, and publication of documents where appropriate, addressing the current developments directly related to serials. Areas for concern include bibliographic control of, and access to, serial materials, the preservation and conservation of these materials, the importance of maintaining open communications among librarians and other relevant professional organizations and groups (i.e., vendors, publishers, and abstracting and indexing services), the impact of technology on all serial activities, and the special needs of developing countries. In carrying out these objectives, the Section will coordinate its work with the five IFLA Core Programmes as well as other IFLA Sections where appropriate.

Goals for 1992-1997

The Section's goals will include the monitoring of current developments relating to serial publications through studies, projects, reports, and open meetings in consultation with appropriate IFLA groups as follows:

1) Provide continued support for the ISDS International Centre and developing countries through expanded support for the OSIRIS Project.

2) Promote the importance of acquiring, retaining, storing, cataloguing and accessing serial literature to a country's historical record.

3) Continue involvement with ISBD- and MARC-related work.

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4) Continue to identify studies relating to union catalogues of serials.

5) Explore and evaluate appropriate methods for the ongoing revision of the International Directory of Serial Experts.

6) Reassess the definitions and concepts of serials in the light of new technologies.

7) Contribute to the development of guidelines for authorities and references as they relate to serials, especially series.

8) Work with publishers, vendors, authors, and other IFLA Sections to promote cooperation as it relates to fair pricing and distributing of journals.

3.5.6 Round Table on Newspapers

Nature and Purpose

The Round Table of the Section on Serial Publications is a group of librarians with responsibilities for acquiring and maintaining access to newspaper collections. It provides a forum for exchanging information and expertise relating to newspapers in libraries.

Objectives

The Round Table is concerned with issues relating to newspapers in libraries, including acquisitions and collection development, bibliographic control and cataloguing, storage and handling, preservation, interlibrary lending, indexing and access for research. A particular objective in the MTP 1992-1997 is to continue working for the improvement of international access to newspaper resources.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Support newspaper microfilming and preservation programmes.

2) Facilitate the creation of union catalogues of newspapers and registers of newspaper microfilm.

3) Encourage cooperative approaches to the provision of newspapers in libraries.

4) Maintain an awareness of studies of the research use of newspapers.

5) Monitor technological developments in newspaper production and distribution and assess their implications for library practices.

6) Widen and increase membership of the Round Table in order to secure a more extensive geographical representation and the participation of specialized libraries, such as those serving the newspaper industry.

7) Foster relationships with relevant national professional groupings, such as societies for media librarians.

3.6 DIVISION OF MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Nature and Purpose

The Division is concerned with a range of activities that affect all types of libraries and library associations. Its work is centered on activities covering library management and statistics, library buildings and equipment, the impact of information technology, the role of audiovisual media in a wide range of operations and services, the preservation and conservation of library materials and the management of library associations.

Objectives

The Division provides a forum for the discussion of topics relating to its wide range of interests and a base for liaison with other bodies. Its objectives include promoting an awareness of the technical and management issues arising from its area of concern, ensuring that its many different aspects are brought to the attention of libraries of all types, and coordinating and encouraging collaboration between its Sections and Round Tables to improve the operation and management of libraries in the long term. The Division's Women's Interest Group aims to promote the gathering of information (research) and its dissemination on the role and status of women in librarianship in cooperation with library associations, and from this identify issues where women need assistance within the profession.

3.6.1 Section on Conservation

Nature and Purpose

The Section represents the worldwide concern for the protection and preservation for use of recorded knowledge as part of our universal cultural heritage. Recording of knowledge and information has been integral to the development and sustenance of literate cultures, but the forms of record are generally impermanent. Awareness of the need for active preservation has been growing throughout the world in recent years. The Section therefore brings together librarians, documentalists and conservation managers from all countries interested in the preservation problem and in the need to provide a better understanding of the professional issues which it poses. The Section works in close collaboration with the IFLA Core Programmes especially PAC, IFLA Sections and Round Tables and other bodies in defining and addressing common problems.

Objectives

The Section provides a forum for discussion of topics relating to preservation in a wide range of libraries and a base for liaison with other bodies. Its work includes:

1) Promoting an awareness of preservation problems and the factors involved among professional and non-professional staff in libraries of all types.

2) Promoting the assessment of the extent of conservation problems in libraries of various kinds throughout the world.

3) Promoting the effective use of the different conservation and preservation options that are available.

4) Encouraging national and international programmes of cooperation in preservation and conservation in close liaison with the PAC Core Programme.

5) Promoting the production and use of permanent paper.

6) Encouraging further research in preservation and conservation issues and techniques.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Promote a regular exchange of information on preservation problems and needs, particularly in developing countries, and in other areas with special needs.

2) Continue to initiate and encourage research and development in preservation issues.

3) Promote the education and training needs relating to preservation and conservation issues among library staff of all levels.

4) Encourage an increase in the production and use of permanent paper.

5) Maintain and extend the range of national and international programmes of cooperation in preservation and conservation.

6) Raise awareness of the scale of the preservation problems facing libraries and the need for effective use of the different preservation and conservation options that are available.

3.6.2 Section on Information Technology

Nature and Purpose

The Section is a cross-section group, which stimulates, develops and promotes concepts and tools for the improvement of quality of modern library services, involving advanced technologies for creation, storage, retrieval, manipulation and display of information for all types of libraries, supports the development and application of a range of international standards and encourages linking in the information chain. A close cooperation with the other Sections and Round Tables and especially with the UDT, UAP, UBCIM and ALP Core Programmes is essential.

Objectives

Support and start initiatives in areas which help to reach the following objectives:

1) Development of network systems (WAN and LAN) promoting the use of modern technology in support of library and information services.

2) Coordination and planning of work involving advanced technologies for creation, storage, retrieval, manipulation and communication of information.

3) Modernization of libraries by addressing the operational and management problems through an investment in advanced information and communication technology in a cost-effective way.

4) Development and production of new IT-based products, services and tools for library users.

5) Reflections on marketing concepts of information services and on economic aspects.

6) Investigations of the impact of new technologies in developing countries.

7) Participation in international initiatives, in particular those designed to facilitate the free flow of information in machine-readable form.

8) Standardization required for resource sharing and linking the information world.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Encourage international linking of systems by application of Open Systems Interconnection (OSI).

2) Define better network access to machine-readable records as a basic resource for international accessibility of information and documents.

3) Continue to improve ability to interconnect automated library systems.

4) Examine the implications of new media for bibliographic access and document delivery.

5) Support retrospective conversion.

6) Stimulate demand for new IT-based user services.

7) Monitor international and national telecommunication policy and hardware and software developments.

8) Study modern data-handling systems and their application to libraries, information services and networking, including economic and marketing aspects.

9) Commission state-of-the-art reports on a range of topics.

10) Develop criteria for selection of suitable databases.

11) Support IT-based services in developing countries.

3.6.3 Section on Library Buildings and Equipment

Nature and Purpose

The Section considers all matters concerning the design and construction of buildings for all types of libraries in all parts of the world, and their furnishing and equipment; develops guidelines for various types of library buildings and promotes training of library planners.

Objectives

The Section aims to collect and disseminate knowledge about library buildings and equipment. It also aims to establish better contacts between librarians and architects by creating the conditions under which it will be possible for each of them to understand the other's language, by establishing contacts between national centres for documentation on library buildings, by collecting and disseminating information on library buildings, and by promoting an exchange of experience between librarians and architects.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Organization of a seminar on library building at least every two or three years, to which developing countries will be encouraged to send representatives.

2) Organization of a study tour on library building at least every two or three years, to which developing countries will be encouraged to send representatives.

3) Establishment of international contacts with architectural associations.

4) Maintenance of contacts with ISO on building standards.

5) Encouragement of the education of librarians in writing programme documents for architects and in other aspects of library planning.

3.6.4 Section on Statistics

Nature and Purpose

The Section is concerned with the definition, standardization, collection, publication and use of statistical data about and used in the successful management and operation of libraries. It works at an international level to promote greater awareness and use of appropriate statistical measures and of the agencies involved with statistical work, particularly the Unesco Office of Library Statistics and ISO Technical Committee 46 Subcommittee 8. Through these international agencies and through IFLA membership, it also encourages national activities and participation by national agencies in international programmes.

Objectives

1) Develop programmes, seminars, and workshops on the Section's work considering the differing needs of developed and developing countries.

2) Encourage all libraries to collect standard statistical data, support national statistical gathering programs and particularly Unesco efforts to provide data enabling libraries to make meaningful comparisons worldwide.

3) Encourage, support and monitor efforts to develop definitions and to collect and report statistics of library activities.

4) Work closely with international agencies engaged in library statistical activities, particularly Unesco and ISO TC46/SC8.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Hold open meetings and divisional forums, identify suitable topics and speakers for the Section's programmes and ensuring meetings are conducted in an informative and professional manner.

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2) Hold workshops, identifying suitable topics, speakers, and partners for a continued programme of workshops on a two to three year cycle, with at least two being held between 1992 and 1997.

3) Promote communication and interest in statistical activities and the work of the Section through its Newsletter and other publications.

4) Pursue funding for and publication of the proposed manual on statistical data gathering for libraries.

5) Pursue the use and application of library performance measures including suitable measures for activities associated with new media.

3.6.5 Round Table on Audiovisual Media

Nature and Purpose

The Round Table, established at the Division level, reflects an inter-divisional interest in the use of audiovisual materials in libraries. Non-book formats have become increasingly important in the communication of information and consequently are to be found in all types of libraries - national, public, educational and special. The Round Table brings together librarians and other specialists working with audiovisual materials. It also encourages the availability and application of audiovisual materials and techniques in libraries to meet the needs of different client groups.

Objectives

1) Liaising with other groups, both inside and outside IFLA, on matters relating to audiovisual services in libraries.

2) Supporting the IFLA Core Programmes through research and other projects where appropriate.

3) Monitoring and collecting information relating to audiovisual services in libraries.

4) Facilitating the international exchange of information on audiovisual matters.

5) Provision of guidelines and standards relating to audiovisual services in libraries.

6) Promoting the international availability of audiovisual materials.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Identify problems relating to cross-border availability of audiovisual materials.

2) Report on the extent to which libraries are using non-book formats and their related technologies.

3) Raise awareness amongst other IFLA groups regarding matters of mutual interest, e.g., training requirements, legal deposit, interlending.

4) Monitor developments relating to copyright and their effect on access to audiovisual materials.

5) Widen and increase membership of the Round Table to reflect expertise in different types of library service.

3.6.6 Round Table on Management

Nature and Purpose

The Round Table, which is established at the Division level, provides a focus for the establishment of principles of management in libraries, to further cooperation and to develop norms and guidelines in the above fields for libraries and library systems. It works together with other IFLA groups and other library groups, to promote management principles and practices throughout the library world. In particular, it seeks to work with library schools and other educational groups in order to assist in the inclusion of the management studies in curricula especially in developing countries. Additionally, it seeks to foster the transfer to the developing world of methodologies and technologies supporting management and information principles and practices. The Round Table therefore brings together librarians and other information professionals as well as educators from all countries who have not only an interest in but an understanding of management needs in libraries and information centres and a desire to effect the transfer of this body of knowledge to others.

Objectives

The Round Table provides a forum for discussion of topics relating to management in a broad range of libraries and information centres and a basis for consultation and cooperation with other groups. Specifically its work includes:

1) Promotion of management principles and the need for good practices.

2) Initiating study of and promoting debate on management problems of national and international importance.

3) Promoting the development of management techniques and their application to library planning and operations.

4) Promotion of the management of information systems within libraries.

Goals for 1992-1997

l) Provide a forum for the articulation, discussion, and promulgation of principles of management in libraries of all types, working closely with other IFLA bodies to ensure the inclusion and consideration of principles of special application and need.

2) Concentrate attention and discussion on the special aspects of the flow of information in the management of libraries, i.e., principles of Management Information Systems (MIS).

3) Focus on identifying, discussing, formulating, and promulgating knowledge about logic and quantitatively-based methodologies and techniques (i.e, problem definition, decision analysis, and operations research).

4) Work closely with the Division of Regional Activities, the ALP Programme, and other IFLA units as appropriate, in support of education in the use of these methodologies and techniques in both developed and developing countries.

3.6.7 Round Table for the Management of Library Associations

Nature and Purpose

The purpose of the Round Table, which is established at the Division level, is to provide in the structure of IFLA a place to address the concerns of the library associations that form the main core of IFLA's membership and where attention can be focused on their problems. The nature of library associations, as professional organizations, is: to establish and maintain standards (if necessary supported by codes of conduct or ethics) for the provision of services by their members to the public using libraries, information services and documentation centres; to provide effective organizations for their members and for the provision of professional services to them (such as education and training); and to protect, preserve and disseminate the body of knowledge specific to the profession. The Round Table aims to bring together representatives of these associations, to share experiences and to assist them to achieve their objectives.

Objectives

The Round Table's objectives are to gather information in order to provide assistance and support through publications, seminars, courses and conferences to library associations in the membership, to assist them to play more effective roles in their communities on behalf of their members through improvement in their management and by clarifying their objectives, thereby

contributing to the enhancement of the status, reputation and image of the library and information science profession. The Round Table also assists IFLA to achieve its objectives, particularly through the associations in its membership, with regard to the Long-Term Plan and objectives specifically identified in the Core Programmes.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Library Associations Resource Centre. To collect information for the use of Round Table members, IFLA Headquarters staff, the Executive and the Professional Boards and library associations generally, which will include updates of information on their current officers, management structures, objectives, policies and activities in collaboration with the Simmons College project of the Section for Theory and Research and with the support of NBLC.

2) Provision of advice and expertise, through publications, the organization of seminars, lectures and courses and programmes at the annual IFLA Conferences and for specific countries, on request, with the support of agencies such as the British Council, Unesco, DSE, etc.

3) Status, reputation and image of the profession. To complete work to discover some of the reasons in the three IFLA regions for the poor status, reputation and image of the profession and to develop a programme with professional associations (at the IFLA Pre-Session Seminar, August 1992 in Delhi), to advise them on work and activities they should undertake to improve the situation. To further develop as a consequence, in the Round Table's MTP, goals which in turn will assist library associations to identify their precise needs and lead to more specific Round Table support.

4) Following the publication by Unesco of guidelines in French and English, to organize a Seminar, "Library Associations on the Move - Effective Management and Flexible Planning" in Delhi in 1992 using the Guidelines as a textbook with the objectives of improving library associations' management. Cuba, Brazil, Indonesia and Burma have expressed interest in similar seminars.

5) "Model" library associations. To search for a library association for adoption by the Round Table for a three-year period, with the aim of providing funds and expertise to assist it to improve its management and as a consequence to develop a programme of activities that will ensure its future as an effective professional organization.

6) Eastern Europe. Respond to the creation of new and democratically-established library associations in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. The Round Table will be available to assist, as and when required, with their organization and management and the development of their work on behalf of their members and for the benefit of the publics that they serve.

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7) Recruitment. To attempt to recruit for membership of the Round Table all associations in membership of IFLA.

3.7 DIVISION OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Nature and Purpose

The Division exists to provide a professional focus for the library and information community within IFLA to address the themes of basic professional education, continuing education and training, including curriculum development and evaluation, teaching, learning and training methods and their delivery to the profession and to practitioners. The Division seeks to strengthen, clarify and develop the links between education and learning, and the knowledge base of the field as explored and expressed in investigative and research activities. The Division is especially concerned with the transmission of these aspects to practice and delivery of library and information services. The relations between theory and practice, and application and performance are held as very significant in professional terms. In practice the Division will, through its programmes, try to ensure that these elements and activities are present in full measure in the relevant professional and national infrastructures, and full recognition will be given to the needs of developing countries.

Objectives

The activities of the Division will be supported by the dissemination of research results, the promotion of quality education, the encouragement of strong and effective communication, and by reporting the activities of library and information services to all relevant agencies. A general objective at the working level will be to strengthen the role of the Coordinating Board.

3.7.1 Section on Education and Training

Nature and Purpose

The Section aims to provide a focal point for study and discussion of every aspect of education and training relating to personnel in all kinds of library service. It seeks to bring together those engaged in education for librarianship, and any practitioner or manager with training responsibilities in libraries.

Effective and efficient library services can be provided only if they are staffed by personnel who are appropriately educated and adequately trained, whose knowledge is continually updated, and whose professional status is adequately recognized. Education and training for librarianship is, therefore, a matter of importance to all library services, and the subject will concern all Divisions of IFLA.

The state of education and training of librarians in developing countries is a particular concern of the Section. Where desirable and feasible, the Section therefore cooperates with other international and inter-regional associations concerned with librarianship, and seeks the closest possible cooperation and association with Unesco and other inter-governmental agencies.

The Section is also concerned with the interface between education for librarianship and education for other information-based occupations. Where desirable and feasible, the Section cooperates with other international education and training committees, such as those of FID and ICA.

Objectives

1) Foster international cooperation in basic and continuing education for librarians.

2) Facilitate the international mobility of students and personnel who hold recognized qualifications in librarianship.

3) Promote the establishment and development of basic and continuing education for librarians and paraprofessional staff.

4) Promote the establishment and development of in-service training programmes for librarians and paraprofessional staff.

5) Encourage the integration of education for librarianship with education for other information based occupations.

6) Disseminate information on the development of curricula, teaching methodologies, and teaching materials.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Work toward production of a lexicon or terminology database to standardize terminology for library science, information science, and archival studies.

2) Work toward promoting guidelines for the international equivalence and reciprocity of qualifications of librarians.

3) Work toward developing guidelines for curricula in topics of current concern: research methods; professionalism; international and comparative librarianship; library services to children.

4) Work toward developing guidelines for the education and retraining of teachers of librarianship.

5) Work toward developing guidelines for education and training programmes for paraprofessional staff.

6) Work toward the establishment and development of a Round Table for User Education. The complexity of library services and their importance in all aspects of society make it essential that users should be adequately trained in searching strategies and should be made fully aware of the potential information available to them through libraries. The development of personnel with the knowledge, skills and attitudes required to teach users about access to information is a matter of increasing importance.

3.7.2 Section on Library Theory and Research

Nature and Purpose

The Section exists to provide a professional focus for the library and information research community within IFLA, and to address certain central and structural concerns. These include: maintaining the identity and visibility of the research community in the field; developing activities to encourage the cohesion and growth of research and investigation activities; striving to uphold scientific integrity in research and development activities; recognizing the importance of investigation and research activities in education, training and practice, and taking steps to support an appropriate cadre of researchers with necessary expertise and competence; encouraging inter-disciplinary and plurality of approaches in the research field; strengthening the research area where it is less developed, and particularly in the developing world, in cooperation with ALP; taking a lead in integrating the research and investigative activities within the IFLA network.

Objectives

1) Review and monitor the fundamentals of the research process in library and information studies at the level of theory and conceptual matters on the one hand, and of application and practice on the other.

2) Sustain and improve professional communication amongst researchers and practitioners.

3) Critically review the progress of research and investigation in specific fields of library and information studies.

4) Encourage the systematic reviewing and recording of library and information research and improve its practical effectiveness.

5) Encourage the dissemination of research to practitioners.

6) Promote and develop the research culture in library and information studies.

7) Work towards the improvement of the methodological basis of library and information research, especially in the diverse international and cultural context.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Mid-year meetings and joint meetings with other IFLA units and Core Programmes, and external bodies.

2) Provision of a relevant and contemporary programme related to research at IFLA General Conferences.

3) International thematic reviews of research with associated publication programmes.

4) Projects relating to research infrastructure generally, including registers of research and directories and surveys of resources.

5) Education and training initiatives in research with practitioner, skills and dissemination emphasis.

6) Production of guidelines in research-related activities.

7) Efforts to improve the visibility of research in the field of library and information activities.

3.7.3 Round Table on Continuing Professional Education

Nature and Purpose

The Round Table, established by the Section on Education and Training, works to encourage and develop continuing education programmes for information professionals and to provide a focal point for relevant activities.

New trends in information sources, technology, users' needs and management of libraries emphasize the requirement for continuing education and retraining. The Round Table brings together those interested in and/or responsible for providing delivery systems for continuing education; persons interested in improving the quality of continuing education; and those who wish to promote research relating to continuing education methodologies, motivation, etc.

Objectives

1) Improve the ability of librarians worldwide to contribute to the lifelong learning of individuals both within and outside the profession.

2) Make continuing education for library and information science personnel a significant part of local, national, and international library and information science efforts.

3) Identify elements that yield quality continuing education and ways to achieve these elements.

4) Study alternative delivery systems for continuing education and their relative effectiveness.

5) Facilitate collaboration and development of networks for the exchange of ideas.

6) Develop a clearinghouse for continuing education achievements, needs, problems, financial support and other possible solutions.

7) Encourage international exchange for library personnel.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Development of a 2nd World Conference on Continuing Education potentially to be held in Barcelona, 1993.

2) Increased membership and active worldwide participation in the Round Table.

3) Develop, through the newsletter, a mechanism for exchanges of international library staff members.

4) Stimulate research in continuing education for information professionals.

3.7.4 Round Table of Editors of Library Journals.

Nature and Purpose

The Round Table, established at Division level, is intended to be the means of bringing together librarians, information providers, and publishers to promote the attainment of high standards in professional journals; to promote the free flow of professional communication; to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on content, production and indexing of professional journals.

Objectives

1) Stimulate interest and research in library journals, newsletters and related serial publications.

2) Initiate discussion of problems related to editing, production and circulation of such serials.

3) Encourage detailed examination of specific issues and engage in special projects that will increase understanding in the areas covered by these objectives.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Rationalize examination of sequences of topics in successive meetings at the annual General Conference; proceed towards a balanced perspective of the entire international scene; achieve a coordinated balance of publishing between the industrialized and developing nations.

2) Recognize the emergence of special problems during successive meetings, and plan accordingly for workshops to address these topics.

3) Undertake the specific research project: Viability of library association and other professional journals in sub-Saharan Africa.

4) Coordinate an evaluation of Borchardt's Library Journals: How to Edit Them (IFLA Professional Report, 13), by journal editors from developing countries.

3.7.5 Round Table on Library History

Nature and Purpose

The Round Table of the Section of Library Theory and Research is intended to be the means within IFLA by which professionals specializing in all fields of librarianship can be made aware of the importance of an understanding of the past to the successful provision of library service in the present and future. In particular, the Round Table concentrates on universal and broad themes of library history, regional or international topics, and national or local experience of general significance.

Objectives

1) Stimulate research into the history of libraries and librarianship.

2) Provide a forum for the discussion of library history problems.

3) Encourage the preparation of guides, lists, and indexes to the literature of library history.

4) Coordinate information on research in progress in various countries.

5) Encourage the teaching of library history in programmes of library education and underline its importance in all kinds of professional activities.

Goals for 1992-1997

Planning and organization of a number of conferences and seminars, some linked to, and some separate from, IFLA General Conferences, and publishing the proceedings of some or all of these meetings.

3.7.6 Round Table on Research in Reading

Nature and Purpose

The Round Table of the Section of Library Theory and Research is established to draw together experts in librarianship, sociology, psychology and education, dealing with research into reading, book dissemination and library use. Its major purpose is research into reading for book and library promotion and fostering the creation of a universal reading society. Work in this field is urgent in a world which faces the hazards of secondary illiteracy, reluctance to read, falling levels of literacy, expansion of mass media and similar phenomena.

Objectives

1) Cooperation with experts from different countries of the world collaboration with related national associations, institutes, libraries.

2) Extending professional communication among experts.

3) Elaboration of research projects on reading and library use.

4) Support and encouragement of research initiatives on the national level.

5) Elaboration of research methods and techniques, including formulas for cross-cultural comparative studies.

6) Dissemination and promotion of research findings for the elaboration of book and library strategies and for international campaigns in support of books and libraries.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Involve new experts from different regions of the world in Round Table activities.

2) Develop an information base for research into reading.

3) Generalize methodological and organizational experience to find approaches for cross-cultural comparative surveys.

4) Finalize current projects.

5) Undertake or assist in collaborative projects with other IFLA units, and similar international organizations and associations.

6) Publish Round Table materials (seminar proceedings, project findings, etc.).

7) Provide an international forum for discussion of urgent issues in reading research.

3.8 DIVISION OF REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

Nature and Purpose

The Division is unique in being geographically-based, unlike other Divisions which are organized along subject lines or by types of libraries. Thus it covers the full range of professional activities as applied to libraries in developing countries.

The Division is comprised of three Regional Sections, whose activities are determined by a Regional Standing Committee of elected representatives drawn from its sub-regions. IFLA has established Regional Offices in Dakar, Bangkok and Sao Paulo in order to facilitate IFLA's work within the developing countries. These Offices report directly to IFLA Headquarters and assist the Regional Sections on matters of an administrative nature including the publication of a Newsletter.

Objectives

The Division has as its overall objective the development of an effective programme of professional activities designed progressively to improve the provision of library and information services within the developing countries. This is effected primarily through each Regional Section which sets its own goals, care being taken to minimize duplication of programmes and activities developed under the Core Programme on ALP. At the same time the Division of Regional Activities interacts with other IFLA Divisions and Core Programmes to ensure that due consideration is given to the needs of the developing countries in the development of their programmes and activities. The Division of Regional Activities, therefore, provides a focus for the consideration of issues and concerns that impinge on library development within the Third World; it provides a forum for the exchange of views and experience; it facilitates cooperation and coordination of programmes and activities between its Regional Sections as well as with other IFLA Divisions and Core Programmes and it advises the Core Programme on ALP.

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3.8.1 Section on Regional Activities: Africa

Nature and Purpose

The Section provides a forum for the identification of problems inhibiting the development and progressive improvement of library and information services in Africa and explores strategies for and seeks solutions to these problems through encouraging individual efforts, regional collaboration and the channelling of external assistance.

Objectives

1) Fostering better understanding of the role of library and information services in national development.

2) Promoting the provision and extension of library and information services to non-literates, rural communities and young users.

3) Fostering knowledge and use of the new information technology.

4) Promoting education and continuing education of library workers at all levels.

5) Encouraging national, regional and international cooperation.

6) Facilitating research and publication in the field of library and information provision and use in Africa.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Promote the adoption of national library and information policies in the region.

2) Encourage the establishment of multimedia centres.

3) Encourage the development of school and children's libraries.

4) Facilitate the provision of consultancy and training assistance to libraries adopting the new information technology.

5) Promote continuing education programmes for library workers.

6) Lay the foundation for library cooperation and strengthen institutions at national, regional and international levels.

7) Facilitate research and the publication of research results.

3.8.2 Section on Regional Activities: Asia and Oceania

Nature and Purpose

The Section comprises five sub-regions, namely: Southwest Asia, South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and Oceania. The creation of these sub-regions was motivated primarily by the need to ensure that programmes and activities developed for the Section would benefit all sub-regions and for this reason, each sub-region is represented on the Standing Committee.

Objectives

The Section is mainly concerned to initiate, promote and facilitate the development of library and information services and the library profession within Asia and Oceania, in a more systematic and coordinated manner, so as to ensure that meaningful developments are brought about in all its sub-regions. The Section aims at realizing these objectives, not only through its own efforts but also through the other IFLA Divisions, Sections and Core Programmes as well as through its members.

Goals for 1992-1997

Particular emphasis will be placed on the holding of seminars and workshops within each of the sub-regions in order to sensitize policy makers to the developmental needs of libraries and facilitate the preparation, consideration and adoption of national development policies and plans.

Necessary surveys and studies will also be undertaken at the national or regional level in order to determine the state of the art and build up a body of reliable information for planning or developmental purposes. Due consideration will be given to the publication of the surveys and studies undertaken. Special emphasis will be given to furthering South/South cooperation and the use of expertise available within the region.

3.8.3 Section on Regional Activities: Latin America and the Caribbean

Nature and Purpose

The Section is concerned with establishing closer links among national library associations as well as with librarians in order to work together in the promotion and development of the library and information services of the region.

Objectives

1) Promote the strengthening of national and regional associations by encouraging them to participate in IFLA.

2) Encourage the development of library and information services in the region.

3) Improve the involvement of the IFLA Core Programmes in the region.

Goals for 1992-1997

1) Widen the participation of Latin American and Caribbean associations in IFLA.

2) Increase library cooperative activities in professional training and education.

3) Improve the exchange of experience on the use of new technologies in different types of libraries.

4) Implement proper means of communication in order to have better knowledge of the library development in the region.

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ORGANIZATION OF IFLA DIVISIONS, SECTIONS AND *ROUND TABLES

DIVISION I: GENERAL RESEARCH LIBRARIES

Sections:
- National Libraries
- Parliamentary Libraries
- University libraries and Other General Research Libraries

DIVISION II: SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Sections:
- Art Libraries
- Biological and Medical Sciences Libraries
- Geography and Map Libraries
- Government Libraries
- Science and Technology Libraries
- Social Science Libraries

DIVISION III: LIBRARIES SERVING THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Sections:
- Children's Libraries
  - Round Table: Children's Literature Documentation Centres
- Libraries for the Blind
- Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons
- Library Services to Multicultural Populations
- Public Libraries
- School Libraries

Round Tables:
- INTAMEL
- Mobile Libraries
- ROTNAC

DIVISION IV: BIBLIOGRAPHIC CONTROL

Sections:
- Bibliography
- Cataloguing
- Classification and Indexing

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* Note: the layout of the table indicates whether Round Tables are at divisional level or section level.

DIVISION V:	**COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES**
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DIVISION VI:	**MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY**
Sections:	Conservation Information Technology Library Buildings and Equipment Statistics
Round Tables:	Audiovisual Media Management Management of Library Associations
DIVISION VII:	**EDUCATION AND RESEARCH**
Sections:	Education and Training Round Table: Continuing Professional Education Library Theory and Research Round Table: Library History Round Table: Research in Reading
Round Table:	Editors of Library Journals
DIVISION VIII:	**REGIONAL ACTIVITIES**
Sections:	Africa Asia and Oceania Latin America and the Caribbean

Official Names of the Professional Groups

Divisions/Sections/Round Tables

I General Research Libraries
1. National Libraries
2. University Libraries and other General Research Libraries
3. Parliamentary Libraries

II Special Libraries
4. Government Libraries
5. Social Science Libraries
6. Geography and Map Libraries
7. Science and Technology Libraries
28. Biological and Medical Sciences
30. Art Libraries

III Libraries Serving the General Public
8. Public Libraries
9. Libraries Serving Disadvantaged Persons
10. Children's Libraries
A Children's Literature Documentation Centres (RT)
11. School Libraries
31. Libraries for the Blind
32. Library Services to Multicultural Populations
B National Centres for Library Services (ROTNAC) (RT)
C INTAMEL (RT)
D Mobile Libraries (RT)

IV Bibliographic Control
12. Bibliography
13. Cataloguing
29. Classification and Indexing

V Collections and Services
14. Acquisition and Exchange
15 Interlending and Document Delivery
16. Serial Publications
K Newspapers (RT)
17. Government Information and Official Publications
18. Rare Books and Manuscripts

VI Management and Technology
19. Conservation
20. Library Buildings and Equipment
21. Information Technology
22. Statistics
E Audiovisual Media (RT)
F Management of Library Associations (RT)
L Management (RT)

VII Education and Research
23. Education and Training
G Continuing Professional Education
24. Library Theory and Research
H Library History (RT)
I Research and Reading (RT)
J Editors of Library Journals (RT)

VIII Regional Activities
25. Africa
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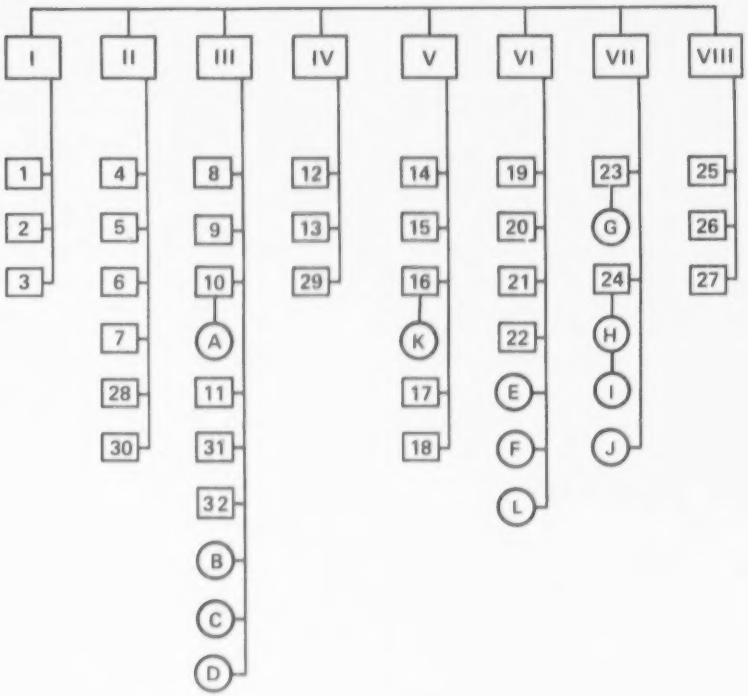
27. Latin America and the Caribbean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